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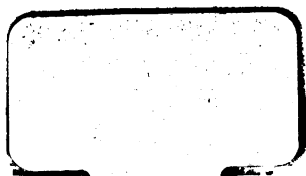
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*History of the campaigns of Count Alexander
Suworow Rymnikski, field-marshal-general ...*

Frederic Anthing, William Connett



CAMPAIGNS

OF

Count Alexander Suworow
Rymnikski.



Field Marshall
COUNT ALEXANDER SUWOROW
Rymnikski.
Ætat . 69.

Published as the Act directs Sep^r 1. 1799 by I. Wright N^o 169. Piccadilly.

Suworow - (Russian).
Italy, field-marshal).

Russia (Hist-)

HISTORY

OF THE

CAMPAIGNS

OF

Count Alexander Suworow
Rymnikski,

FIELD-MARSHAL-GENERAL IN THE SERVICE
OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY, THE EM-
PEROR OF ALL THE RUSSIAS :

WITH
A PRELIMINARY SKETCH OF HIS PRIVATE LIFE
AND CHARACTER.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF
FREDERICK ANTHING.

Johann Friedrich

*Si fractus illabatur orbis,
Impavidum serient ruinae.*

MORAT. L. 3. QDE 3,

IN TWO VOLUMES,
VOL. I.

LONDON :

PRINTED FOR J. WRIGHT, PICCADILLY.

1799 H,

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TO THE READER.

I Offer to the reader a History of the Campaigns of a man, who is the object of admiration in every part of Europe, who has long been ranked among the most celebrated heroes of the North, and who has immortalized the glory of the Russian arms.

I should have deferred the publication of this work to a more distant

VOL. I.

a

period,

period, had I not felt it a duty, to yield to the earnest solicitations of a crowd of persons, who venerate the character of Field - Marshal - General Count Suworow.

I flatter myself that this Essay will find a favourable reception ; and that the public will receive as much satisfaction in reading these Memoirs, as I have experienced in writing them.

FREDERICK ANTHING.

T A B L E
OF
C O N T E N T S.

BIOGRAPHICAL Preface, containing a summary account of the private life and character of Count Alexander Suworow Rymnikski.

C H A P. I.

Seven years war with the Prussians.

Suworow enters into the army, in 1742.

He marches against the Prussians, in the seven years war, with the rank of first major, and is at the battle of Kunnerdorf, and the taking of Berlin. He is appointed to the light troops, under the

a 2

command

command of General Berg. Battle of Reichenbach, in the environs of Breslaw. Berg is sent with a detachment in pursuit of the Prussians. Suworow surprises Landfberg. Engagement near Stargard. Frequent skirmishes. Suworow beats Courbiere, and takes him prisoner. He surprises Goldnaw. General Werner is made prisoner. Dearth of provisions in Colberg. Forces the Prussian general, Platen, and Prince Eugene, of Wurtemberg, to retreat into Saxony. Colberg surrenders to Count Romanzow. The troops go into winter quarters, 1762. Truce, between Prussia and Russia, followed by a peace. Suworow is dispatched to Petersburg, where he is advanced to the rank of colonel.

CHAP. II.

War with the Confederates of Poland, 1769.

The Empress proceeds to Moscow to be crowned. On her return, attends a review

of the regiment of Suworow. Remains with his regiment at Ladoga during two years. A grand camp at Petersburg, for the practice of manœuvres. Suworow advanced to the rank of brigadier. Marches into Poland against the confederates. Is sent to Warsaw, and completes eighty (German) miles in twelve days: He beats Kotelupowski near Warsaw. Defeats and disperses the troops commanded by the two Pulawskis. Takes his quarters at Lublin, and is made major-general. Falls in the river near Clementow, and is very much hurt. Action near Landskron, in which two marshals are killed, and several made prisoners. He returns to Lublin. On his march thither fights Pulawski and Nowosi. Kosakowski forms a second confederation in Lithuania, and gains some advantages over the Russians. Suworow leaves Lublin, in order to attack it. Defeats the army of the confederates under Oginski. The Empress

sends him the order of St. Alexander. Adventure with Colonel Sahrowski. Suworow marches towards Cracow, and joins a corps under the command of General Braniski. The confederates surprise the castle of Cracow. Suworow arrives, and forms a blockade. The garrison capitulate. Articles of capitulation. An attempt upon Tynez. Entrance of the Austrian and Prussian troops into Poland. First division of that kingdom. Suworow returns to Petersburg. He is ordered to visit the frontiers of Finland.

C H A P. III.

First war against the Turks.

Suworow arrives at the army of Jassy, 1773. Receives a command. Passes the Danube, and defeats the Turks, at Turbakay. The Empress sends the order of St. George, of the second class. He beats the Turks a
second

second time in the same place. Possesses himself of a considerable flotilla. Receives another command near Nisrow. Defeats the Turks again near that place. Retires, ill with a fever, into Russia. Returns, in the spring, to the banks of the Danube. Receives the brevet of lieutenant-general. Commands the second division, and the corps de reserve. Joins general Kanenski. Defeats the Turks near Kasludgi. Goes to Buchkereft, for the recovery of his health. Peace is concluded. He returns to Russia.

CHAP. IV.

Pugatschew pursued and made prisoner.

Suworow is employed to quiet interior disturbances. Michelson defeats Pugatschew near Zarizin. Suworow pursues the rebels to Uralsk. He conducts their chief prisoner to Simbirsk. Takes upon him the

command of the troops there, in the absence of Count Panin. Rejoicings for the peace at Moscow. Suworow remains for some time on his estates.

CHAP. V.

Operations in the Cuban and the Crimea.

Suworow is sent into the Crimea, and is present at the elevation of Schahin Ghiray, to the dignity of Khan. He goes to Pultawa, where he is attacked by an inflammatory fever. Rejoins his corps on the Cuban, and erects fortifications on the banks. The different people of Circassia. Goes to the Crimea after the departure of Count Prosorowski, and receives a command. The Porte disturbed at the appointment of the new Khan. Suworow compels a Turkish flotilla to leave the port of Achtiar; and obliges the Captain Pacha to retire, with a numerous fleet. He brings

brings away Greek and Arminian families from the Crimea into Russia. The Attukays make irruptions into the Cuban. Treaty between Russia and the Porte. Schahin Schiray is acknowledged Khan, by the Grand Sultan. The Russian troops retire from the Cuban to the Crimea. Suworow is charged with the command of the troops in Little Russia. The Empress makes him a present of her portrait. He takes a journey to Petersburg. He is charged with a commission for Astracan, and the Caspian Sea. He obtains the command of the division of Casan.

CHAP. VI.

The Tartars of the Crimea and of Nogay swear obedience to Russia. An expedition against those of Nogay.

Revolt against the new Khan of the Crimea. He takes to flight, and is re-established,
Su-

Suworow takes the command of a corps in the Cuban. The Khan abdicates his dignity. Repast of the Tartars of Nogay. Suworow compels them to take the oath of fidelity. Second repast. Suworow receives a diploma from the Empress, with the great cross of the order of Wolodimir. Details on the origin of the Tartars of Nogay. The ancient khan of the Tartars quits the Crimea. He produces an insurrection among those of Nogay. Divers actions with them, and among themselves. Numbers of them fly to the other side of the Cuban. Retreat by the wilds to Jay. Suworow enters into winter quarters at Saint Demetrius. Intimate connection between Murfabay and Suworow. The journey of the latter to Moscow. He receives the command of the division of Wolodimir, 1785. Schahin Schiray, who has passed some time in Russia, returns to Turkey. He is beheaded at Rhodes.

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V O L. II.

C H A P. I.

War against the Turks, in 1787.

Suworow is named general-in-chief. Journey of the Empress to the Crimea. On this occasion, Suworow is appointed to command the corps distributed in the environs of Kiowie and Pultawa; and, soon after, that of Cherfon, of which that of Kinburn makes a part. Kinburn surprised by the Turks. Bloody but victorious engagement. Suworow is wounded in the arm. He celebrates the victory. Receives the order of St. Andrew. He passes the winter at Kinburn, and takes measures against the future surprise of that town.

C H A P.

C H A P. II.

Suworow receives the command of the fleet on the Black Sea. The Turks send a considerable fleet to Ockzakow. Suworow erects a strong battery near Kinburn. Advantages gained by the Prince of Nassaw, over the Turks, in three different engagements. They sustain an immense loss. Hassan Bacha returns to Constantinople, with the remains of his fleet. Prince Potemkin, besieges Ockzakow. Suworow commands the left wing of the army. He is dangerously wounded in the neck, in a sally of the garrison. He is removed to Kinburn. A magazine of powder is blown up; and he is again wounded. Assault of Ockzakow.

C H A P.

CHAP. III.

Suworow arrives at Jassy, from Petersburg.

He takes the command of the corps of Berlat. Prince Saxe Cobourg incamps near Suworow. Sultan Selim ascends the throne. He augments his army. Cobourg informs Suworow that the Turks are on their march against him, and the latter immediately forms a junction. Action of the cavalry at Putna. Battle of Forhani. Capture of the fortified convents of Saint Samuel and Saint John. Conference of Cobourg and Suworow, after the victory. Loss of the Turks in the battle. Letter of the Emperor Joseph to Suworow.

CHAP. IV.

Return of General Suworow to Berlat. Intelligence received of the march of the principal army of the Turks. Cobourg requests Suworow to join him, and he forms a junction by forced marches. He
confers

confers with Cobourg, and then proceed to reconnoitre. Battle of Rymnik. Loss of the Turks. Their army retires beyond the Danube, and disperses. Cobourg separates from Suworow, who is created a Count of Russia and the Empire. He receives letters from the Emperor Joseph, and the Empress of Russia.

CHAP. V.

Suworow returns to Berlat. He connects himself with the Seraskier, at Brakilow. Cobourg fixes his winter quarters near Suworow. His corps is reinforced. Hassan Bacha, as Grand Vizier, makes proposals for peace. His death puts an end to them. The Grand Vizier passes the Danube. Suworow quits his winter quarters. He writes to Cobourg, and afterwards joins him by forced marches. Letter of the Emperor Leopold. Armistice of Reichenbach changes the face of affairs. Suworow

takes leave of Cobourg, and retires. Letter of the Prince de Cobourg. Dulcia, Kilia, and Ifaccia, are taken. The General Sudowitsch, and Admiral Rilas approach Ismail. The siege is deferred, on account of the advanced state of the season.

CHAP VI.

Suworow receives orders to take Ismail. He marches thither. Reconnoitres the place. Preparations made for an assault. Blockade of Ismail. Position of the besiegers. Immense garrison of Turks. The place summoned. The answer of the Seraskier. Second summons. Harrangue of Suworow to the generals and the troops. Distribution of the column, by land and by water. Signal of assault. The ramparts are scaled and taken. Sally of the Turks. Bloody combats in the streets, and public places. Several fortified buildings taken. Importance of this capture. Festivals.

Festivals which succeed. Letter from the Emperor Leopold. Journey of Suworow to Petersburg.

CH A P. VII.

Journey of Suworow to the frontiers of Sweden. He is charged to command the troops which are in Finland, and the fleet stationed on the coast of that province. He erects redoubts. Peace is made with the Turks. He receives the command of the army on the frontiers of Turkey, and sets out for Cherson. Letter from the Empress to Suworow.

CH A P. VIII.

The last campaign in Poland, and the downfall of that kingdom, in 1794.

Suworow leaves Cherson to inspect the frontiers of the Crimea. Insurrection at Cracow

cow and Warsaw. The influence of that event on the Polish soldiers in the pay of Russia, &c. Suworow receives an order to disarm these brigades. Measures relative to this operation. His corps marches that very day in different detachments, and executes the commission. He re-assembles his corps at Niemerow. He pays a visit to Count Romanzow, at his country seat.

CHAP. IX.

Events of the war, subsequent to the insurrection of Warsaw. Siege of Warsaw. Suworow receives orders to enter Poland. The rapidity of his march. First attack at Divin. Defeat at Kobrin. Defeat of the Poles at Krupezyze.

CHAP. X.

March of the Russians to Brzescie, where the Polish corps had retired. Report of

a Jew, on the position of Syrakowski, &c. Dispositions of Suworow. His corps passes the river, during the night. Syrakowski is attacked. Enormous loss of the Poles. Suworow goes to Brzescie, and encamps before Therespol.

C H A P. XI.

Suworow demands of Prince Repnin, that the corps of Derfelden may join him. Kosciusko learns the defeat of Brzescie, &c. Movements of General Fersen. Suworow's corps so weakened, by its detachments, that it cannot undertake any thing. The Prince of Zizianow takes Grabowski prisoner, &c. A courier from Makranski to Kosciusko is taken. Report of Derfelden, who approaches Suworow. Fersen passes the Vistula, gains the battle of Matfchewiz, and takes Kosciusko prisoner. Measures taken by Suworow to form a junction with Derfelden and Fersen. He
 5 marches

for Warsaw. Some circumstances relating to Kosciusko.

CHAP. XII.

Derfelden approaches Suworow. His advanced guard defeats the rear guard of Makranowski, whose corps retire to Warsaw. Suworow approaches Praga, a suburb of that capital. Junction with the corps of Fersen. He takes the route of Kobylka. Attacks, and almost destroys, a detachment of the enemy, amounting to five thousand men. Suworow fixes his head quarters at Kobylka. Fersen encamps on the left wing, and Derfelden on the right. Preparations for the assault of Praga. Makranowski returns thither, and resigns his command.

C H A P. XIII.

The generals reconnoitre the fortifications of Praga. The majors, Bischeffski and Muller, arrive from Warsaw, charged with commissions. Answer of Suworow to General Zeyonschik. Departure of Kobylka for the assault of Praga. The army encamps round that suburb. Batteries erected. Distribution of troops for the attack. Assault of Praga. The bridge destroyed. Loss of the Poles.

C H A P. XIV.

The King of Poland, and magistrates of Warsaw, send deputies to Suworow, respecting the capitulation of Warsaw. He confers with them, and proposes the articles. Correspondence relative to this object. Fersen passes the Vistula. Sedition at
 • • • • •
 Warsaw.

Warsaw. The chiefs wish to take away the king, &c. Farther communications between the king and Suworow. The latter proposes his ultimate conditions. The Polish troops evacuate Warsaw. The king and the magistrates consent to the entrance of the Russian troops.

C H A P. XV.

Suworow enters, with his army, into Warsaw. He pays the king a visit of ceremony. The substance of their conversation.

C H A P. XVI.

Fersen pursues the Poles, who have quitted Warsaw. They form four considerable divisions. They, at length, lay down their arms. Passports are given to those who engage to quit the service. Those who refuse are sent into the interior parts of the country. Several Polish chiefs and generals have secretly escaped.

CHAP. XVII.

A sketch of the campaign. Suworow receives the staff of field-marshal, the orders of Prussia, and the portrait of the Emperor Francis II. and very considerable portions of land, &c. from the Empress. He passes a year at Warsaw. Makes a review of his army. His journey to Petersburg. The honours he receives there. He departs for his new command, on the frontiers of Turkey. He sends his troops into winter quarters.

SUPPLEMENT.

Different letters, from the Empress Catharine, the Emperor Francis II., the King of Prussia, and the King of Poland, to Field-Marshal Suworow, during and after the campaign of Poland.

BIOGRAPHICAL

BIOGRAPHICAL PREFACE.

IN passing through Cherson, on my way to Constantinople, I had the happiness to form an intimate acquaintance with the Count Suworow, and to pass some months at his house. Of such an opportunity I diligently availed myself, to obtain authentic accounts of every circumstance that was connected with his military career; and I collected them not only from the oral relation of several persons who were witnesses of his glorious exploits, but from his own personal communications. As to the particular details, I have since compared them with, and rectified them by, official reports.

But, however interesting it might be to possess the most minute circumstances of the private life of a man, whose name fills so large a space in the page of history, it is my office to give no more than a general outline of it.

The family of Suworow was originally from Sweden, and of a noble descent. The first of this name settled in Russia, the latter end of the last century; and, having engaged in the wars against the Tartars and the Poles were rewarded, by the Czars of that period, with lands and peasants.

Basil Suworow, the father of the field-marshal, was the godson of Peter I. He was held in high estimation for his political knowledge, as well as extensive erudition; and enjoyed, at his death, the two-fold rank of general and senator.

Alex-

Alexander Basilowitsch Suworow, the hero of this work, and of Europe, was born in the year 1730. His father had destined him for the robe; but his earlier inclinations impelled him to the profession of a soldier; and the same spirit has conducted him through a long and unrivaled career of glory, to attain the distinguished rank of field-marshal; and, after having conquered for his country, to conquer for Europe.

It is the custom for the sons of persons of distinction, in Russia, to be enrolled in the army at a very early age; sometimes, within a year after their birth. But the young Suworow had attained twelve years before his name was, fortunately for his country, inscribed on the military roll of the Russian army. He remained, however, at home for a few years, in order to complete his education, under the superintendence of a father, who was so well qualified to conduct it.

from

From his earliest youth he was enamoured of the sciences; and improved himself in them. Cornelius Nepos was a favourite classic; and he read, with great avidity and attention, the histories of those renowned captains, Turenne and Montecuculi. But Cæsar and Charles XII. were the heroes whom he most admired, and whose activity and courage became the favourite objects of his imitation. History and philosophy had great attractions for him; he studied the first in Rollin and Hubner, and the second in Wolf and Leibnitz.

He is master of the principal part of the European languages. He speaks and writes both German and French, as if they were his native tongues.* He is also well acquainted with those of Italy and Moldavia,
of

* We shall here beg leave to give an example of his manner of writing the French language, by presenting our readers with an original letter, written by him to
Charette,

of Poland, and Turkey; and he can converse in all the various dialects of the people whom he has subdued.

In

Charette, when he commanded the royalist party, in La Vendée, in 1793:

“ Le General Suworow à M. de Charette, Generalissime des troupes du roi de France, à son quartier general.

“ Héros de la Vendée ! illustre défenseur de la foi de tes peres, et du trône de tes rois, salut !

“ Que le Dieu des armées veille à jamais sur toi; qu’il guide ton bras à travers les bataillons de tes nombreux ennemis, qui, marqués du doigt de ce Dieu vengeur, tomberont dispersés comme le feuille qu’un vent du nord a frappé !

“ Et vous, immortels Vendéens, fideles conservateurs de l’honneur des Français; dignes compagnons d’armes d’un Héros guidés par lui, relevez le Temple du Seigneur, et le trône de vos rois !

“ Que le mechant perisse ! Que sa trace s’efface,
 “ . . . Alors que la paix bienfaisante renaisse, et que la tige
 “ antique

In 1774, he married Barba Nanowna, Princess Proforowski, daughter of the General Prince Iwan Proforowski; by whom he has two children now living: Natalia, Countess Suworow, who married General Count Nicolai Zoubow; and Arcadius, who is about fourteen years of age, a youth of great promise, and a lieutenant in one of the regiments of guards.

" antique des Lys, que la tempête avoit courbée, se relève
" du milieu de vous, plus brillante, et plus majestueuse.

" Brave Charette! honneur des Chevaliers Français!
" L'Univers est plein de ton nom! L'Europe étonnée te
" contemple, et moi je t'admire et te félicite....
" Dieu te chérit, comme autrefois David, pour punir le
" Philistin. Adore ses décrets. Vole, attaque, frappe,
" et la victoire suivra tes pas.

" Tels sont les vœux d'un soldat qui, blanchi aux champs
" de l'honneur, vit constamment la victoire couronner la
" confiance qu'il avoit placée dans le Dieu des combats.
" Gloire à lui, car il est la source de toute gloire. Gloire
" à toi,—car il te chérit.

" SUWOROW."

*Le premier d'Octobre, 1795.
A Varsovie.*

Not-

Notwithstanding his age, his long and laborious marches, which form an enormous aggregate of six thousand German miles (equal to twenty thousand of English measure); notwithstanding his wounds and military toils; Suworow still preserves the gaiety of youth. He is free from all corporeal weakness and infirmity; a circumstance which must be attributed to the hardy habits of his life, his robust constitution, and rigid temperance. Distinct as he is, in the more striking features of his character, from the common race of men; that difference is seen to prevail, even in his ordinary transactions, in his mode of living, and the distribution of his time.

He rises about four in the morning, both in winter and summer, in town, and in the country. His bed is not contrived by art to indulge the effeminate voluptuary, it is not made of down, or furrounded with silken curtains, but is formed of the simple materials

rials of nature, which afford, to the peasant, fatigued with labour, the refreshing sweets of sleep. A heap of fresh hay sufficiently elevated, and scattered into considerable breadth, is his humble couch. A white sheet is spread over it, with a cushion for his pillow, and his cloak for a coverlid. He generally sleeps without body linen; and, in summer, he passes his day and night in a tent in his garden.

It is not to be supposed that the toilet occupies any portion of his time; but when he is not on active service, he is clean in his person, and frequently washes himself in the course of the day. He confines his dress to an uniform, and a kind of close jacket, called a *gurtka*: but robes de chambre, and riding coats, are banished from his wardrobe, and he never suffers the indulgence of gloves, or a pelisse, but when a winter's march compels him to use them.

After

After his breakfast, which consists of tea, he walks, for an hour, by way of exercise, and then sits seriously down to the official duties of the day. He reads letters and reports, distributes the necessary orders, and continues, without relaxation, his professional occupations till noon. He dictates such alterations as he thinks necessary to be made in the various dispatches which are presented to his inspection; and he will sometimes write them himself. His style is manly and concise; and so correct is he in the choice of his expressions, that he is never known to efface them.

The hour of his dinner is irregular, and varies from nine to twelve; and, during his repast, he is frequently communicative and full of vivacity: his table generally consists of about twenty covers; but he is himself a rare example of temperance, and observes the fasts of the Greek church with the most undeviating rigour. Immediately after his dinner,

ner, he passes a few hours in sleep, and supper is not a meal with him.

He knows little of the amusements and pastimes which luxury has invented, and lassitude demands, to quicken the pace, or relieve the burthen, of time.

His principal occupation, and, at the same time, his favourite diversion, is war and its duties. However severe he may be with his soldiers, whether in their discipline and manœuvres, or the incredible marches (sometimes of ten German miles a day), by which he has given such éclat and effect to his campaigns, they all regard him with an affection which borders on idolatry; and under his command they are inspired with a courage that renders them invincible: but whether they are engaged in the hurry of a campaign, or enjoying the repose of winter quarters, their necessary wants and appropriate comforts

forts are the constant objects of his protecting attention.

The small portion of leisure which he enjoys is devoted to reading. But as the military science has long been, and continues to be, the sole object of his regard, those authors of every nation, who investigate, illustrate, or improve it, engross his literary attentions. He does not, however, neglect to get information of what is passing in the world, from the communications afforded by the journals and gazettes of foreign countries.

He dislikes all public entertainments; though when any particular circumstance leads him thither, he appears to partake, and endeavours to promote the general pleasure. He will sometimes even dance and play at cards, though very rarely indeed, and merely that he may not interrupt the etiquette of public manners.

His father bequeathed him a considerable property, which the grateful bounty of the empress, has considerably augmented; though he constantly refused all presents, in money or land, till the interest of his children could be benefited by such gratifications. He entrusts the administration of his private affairs to others; and possesses none of those baubles which the rich too generally regard, as contributing to the enjoyment and pleasure of life. He has neither villa, nor plate, nor equipage, nor liveried servants, nor pictures, nor rare collections. As a warrior, he has no fixed habitation; he contents himself with whatever he finds, requires nothing but what absolute necessity demands, and which may be transported with ease from one place to another. It is also among the singular, though unimportant circumstances of his life, that he has not made use of a looking-glass for twenty years, or, during that period, encumbered his person with either watch or money.

With

With respect to his character, he is a man of the most incorruptible probity, immovable in his purposes, and inviolable in his promises. Nor do these sturdy virtues disqualify him from possessing the most engaging manners. He is continually striving to moderate a violence of temper, which he has not been able to extinguish. An effervescent spirit of impatience continues to predominate in his character; and it, perhaps, never happened, that the execution of any of his orders has been equal to the rapidity of his wishes.

He is sincerely religious, not from enthusiasm, but from principle; and takes every opportunity of attending the offices of public devotion: nay, when circumstances afford him the opportunity, he will, on Sundays and festivals, deliver lectures on subjects of piety, to those whom duty calls to an attendance upon him.

The

The love of his country, and the ambition to contend in arms for its glory, are the powerful and predominant emotions of his indefatigable life, and to them, like the ancient Romans, he sacrifices every other sentiment, and consecrates, without reserve, all the faculties of his nature.

His military career has been one long, uniform course of success and triumph, produced by his enterprising courage, and extraordinary presence of mind, by his personal intrepidity and promptitude of execution, by the rapid and unparalled movements of his armies, and by their perfect assurance of victory, in fighting under his banners.

Such is the private life and character of Suworow : his public actions are displayed in the succeeding volumes.

CAMPAIGNS

CAMPAIGNS

O F

Count Alexander Suworow-Rymnikski.

C H A P. I.

ENTRANCE OF SUWOROW INTO THE ARMY;
AND HIS FIRST CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE
PRUSSIANS, IN THE SEVEN YEARS WAR.

COUNT Alexander Suworow-Rymnikski began his military career as a private soldier. In 1742, he was enrolled as a fusileer in the guards of Seimonow. In 1747, he served as a corporal; two years after he obtained some farther advancement, which was soon followed by his promotion to the rank of serjeant. During this period, he was employed

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as a courier in Poland and Germany. In 1754, he quitted the guards with the brevet of lieutenant of the army. In 1756, he had the conduct of the provisions; was afterwards lieutenant to the auditor-general, and appointed to the command of Memel, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

He made his first campaign, in the seven years war against the Prussians, in 1759; and entered upon actual service under Prince Wolgoniski, and attended, as senior officer on duty, on the Commander-in-Chief Count Fermor, who, admiring the consummate resolution which he appeared to possess, favoured him with his particular confidence. He was also at the battle of Runnersdorff, and at the capture of Berlin, by Tottleben; but, on these occasions, he found no opportunity to acquire distinction.

In 1761, he was ordered on service in the light troops under General Berg. That corps marched

marched to Breslau, and served to cover the retreat of the Russian army, in which Major-General Ballenbach had been left in the entrenchments.

On the first day of this retreat, General Knobloch, at the head of a considerable body of Prussian troops, marched against the Russians, with drums beating and colours flying; but Suworow directed the artillery with such effect, that the very first grenades which were thrown, set fire to a large magazine of hay, and blew up several chests of powder. The cannonade continued till General Knobloch thought it necessary to retreat. This affair took place near the village of Reichenbach, at a small distance from Breslau.

The body of light Russian troops proceeded to take post between two villages, called the great and the little Wanderins, in the neighbourhood of Lignitz, and about a mile and a half from the Prussian army.

The design of the King of Prussia was to interrupt the march of the Russians towards the Convent of Wallstadt; but before day-break the Russian troops were in motion, and Suworow attacked, with great ardour, the Prussian advanced posts, which, being forced to give way, were immediately supported, by the king's orders, with several thousand men. The Russians defended themselves with the most deliberate courage and regained their first position. The Prussians returned several times to the attack, but without success; and though the main body of the army was approaching to their support, the Russians established their camp at Wallstadt, and enclosed it with entrenchments.

Laudohn, who was in the neighbourhood, advanced with thirty squadrons, when the king ordered a regiment of the Finkenstein dragoons to attack a strong party of them: but, though the Prussians had the advantage in this engagement, and made a considerable
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number of prisoners, they left many of their companions behind them on the field.—The hussars of Woldum and Malachowski greatly distinguished themselves on the occasion. The Prussians encamped in the evening, extending their left wing towards the Convent of Wallstadt, and entrenched themselves. They had formed their camp at about half a mile at most from the Russians, but the latter finding themselves straitened for their advanced posts, Suworow and Lieutenant-Colonel Tekelly, attacked, with a running fire, the strong picquets of the Prussians, drove them in, and possessed themselves of the ground which their position required.

On the following day, after several skirmishes, the corps of light Russian troops took the Convent, which was defended by the artillery of the Prussians; but they were soon dislodged, and the place strengthened with a considerable garrison. In a few days, that part of the army which the king commanded

in person returned to its first position; but his majesty soon quitted it for Schweidnitz, where, contrary to his usual practice, he entrenched himself.

The imperial troops were in possession of Liegnitz; to the left of which place was the Russian camp; and on the left of the camp was the imperial army, commanded by Loudon, which, by means of a detached corps, formed a communication with Liegnitz; so that the Prussian army was, in a great measure, inclosed at Schweidnitz.

The troops being rather scattered they drew nearer to each other; Suworow was ordered to march with a Russian corps; and with sixty Cossacs of Krasnoschi, he instantly attacked a picquet of Prussian hussars consisting of about one hundred men posted on a hill. The Russians were twice repulsed, but, on the third charge, they routed the enemy and gained the height from whence they saw

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the black and yellow regiments of Prussian hussars in the valley beneath them. In this position he remained unmolested, and receiving, in about two hours, a reinforcement of two regiments of Cossacs, amounting to about a thousand men, he made a movement in order to attack the enemy; but, as the day began to decline, the Prussian troops retired to their camp; and, during the night, the Russians took possession of the ground which they had abandoned.

Various skirmishes took place between the hostile troops; but the Russians always contrived to maintain their posts. One morning, in particular, Suworow with the two regiments of Popow and Durowerow made so close an attack on the Prussian entrenchments, that he saw very distinctly the tents which formed the head-quarters of the king, and drove back the black and yellow hussars with considerable loss.

Among the Prussian deserters which continually came over, one of them, who was a serjeant, gave Suworow a very minute account of the magazines in Schweidnitz ; by which it appeared that the town was still provided with bread and forage for three months.

Deserters were always sent to the headquarters of Field-Marshal Butterlin, but Suworow advised General Berg to keep this serjeant with him, lest his account of the actual state of Schweidnitz should induce the Field-Marshal to change his present dispositions. General Berg, however, disregarded this proposal : as soon, therefore, as it was known that there was such a large supply of provisions in the place, and that the Prussians who covered it could maintain themselves so long, the Russian army abandoned its position (on the 29th of August) and encamped behind Liegnitz, as it was pretended, from the want of herbage. Laudohn was obliged

obliged also, to his great mortification, to resume the position which he had already occupied.

In the beginning of the summer, in the same year, Count Romanzow formed the blockade of Colberg. His Prussian majesty, to relieve that place, detached General Platen at the head of ten or twelve thousand men, with orders to direct his march from Silesia, by Poland, and to destroy, in his way, the Russian magazines of provisions and forage. On his route, he fell in with the Brigadier Tscherepow, who commanded the reserve of the flying magazine; and defended himself, with no more than a thousand men, for two hours, against the Prussian detachment; but was at length overpowered by numbers. The brigadier was made prisoner with eight hundred men, and the loss of four pieces of cannon, and they were all sent off for Custin. The Russians lost two hundred and the Prussians four hundred men in this engagement.

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Field-Marshal Butterlin had ordered a body of light troops to set out on a false march, which was so well managed, that from the third day the Russians had it in their power to overtake General Platen. This corps, which was entirely cavalry, consisted of twenty squadrons of horse grenadiers, twelve squadrons of dragoons, thirty squadrons of hussars, five regiments of Cossacs, and six pieces of cannon.

General Berg, accompanied by Suworow, joined the advanced guard with four squadrons of cavalry, four regiments of Cossacs, and four pieces of cannon; and, by this forced march, he cut off General Platen from the grand magazines of Posen and other places.

The advanced guard met the Prussians in the environs of Kortian, and the Brigadier-General Milgunow followed it with the main body, at the distance of about a mile.

General

General Berg accordingly directed him to join the advanced guard ; though the latter had received orders to begin the attack even if that junction was not effected.

The Russians, availing themselves of the obscurity of the night, traversed a thick wood, in order to come upon the rear of the Prussian camp : but at break of day the Prussians were already formed ; their first line being composed of cavalry, and their second of infantry. The Russian artillery, however, small as it was, obliged them to change their order, and to bring their infantry in front. The Prussians were now supported by thirty pieces of cannon ; but the thickness of the wood prevented a discovery of the small number of Russian troops ; so that when it became broad day-light, the former, instead of making an attack, marched across a narrow way between two pieces of water, with their cavalry in the rear. General Berg pursued them

them with the advanced guard, and made two hundred prisoners.

Brigadier Milgunow did not join the advanced guard till the morrow; and frequent skirmishes took place during several successive days, with various success: they were, however, sufficient to force General Platen to make a movement, in order to get into Pomerania, by the left bank of the river Warta. The Russians, therefore, made a stand on the right bank, and threw every possible obstacle in the way of the enemy to interrupt and retard their march.

Suworow, with a hundred Cossacs of the regiment of Durowerow, swam across the river Netze to Driefen, and, during the night, marched six miles to Landsberg, a town situate on the Warta. He beat down the gates with large clubs, rushed into the town, and made two detachments of hussars, consisting

consisting of about fifty men, with their officers, prisoners of war. He burned half the bridge over the Warta, and remained in the place, till the Prussian detachment, under General Platen, arrived on the opposite bank. That officer immediately ordered pontoons to be thrown across the river; and, in the mean time, directed the battalion of the grenadiers of Arnim to pass it in boats.

While these lesser enterprizes were proceeding, Lieutenant-General Prince Dolgorucki was detached from the Russian army, in Silesia, to Colberg, with a body of forces equal in number and equipment to the Prussian detachment under General Platen, which had been appointed to the relief of that place. The prince proceeded in a direct line to Arenswald, and forced on his troops, by marches of greater length than those of the Prussian general.

Platen

Platen took his line of march from Landf-
 berg to Colberg, by the way of Regenwalde :
 General Berg accordingly ordered Suworow
 to follow him, with three regiments of huf-
 fars and seven regiments of Cossacs, to har-
 rass his flank; in which they effectually suc-
 ceeded, by driving in his flank parties on the
 right, and pursuing them almost under the
 cannon of the Prussian detachment, which
 was posted on an height: but, though it was
 by no means inactive, it could not pre-
 vent him from taking two hundred prisoners;
 dragoons and hussars.

Several days were passed in skirmishing,
 till Suworow arrived at the river Rega, on
 whose opposite bank he found the Prince
 Dolgorucki. He, therefore, returned to Ge-
 neral Berg, at Stargard, while Platen con-
 tinued his march to Colberg. In his way,
 the Prussian general made an attack at
 Corlin, where Major Welitsch, with a few
 hundred

hundred men, covered a small magazine. That officer made a very vigorous defence, during several hours, but was at length obliged to yield to superior numbers. He and the troops which survived the engagements surrendered prisoners of war; and General Platen gave him that honourable reception which his bravery deserved.

General Platen was, however, retarded by various accidents, and could not prevent Prince Dolgorucki from forming a junction with Count Romanzow; who had actually received orders from Field-Marshal Butterlin to abandon the blockade and to go into winter quarters, on account of the advanced state of the season; but, on being strengthened by such a considerable reinforcement, he determined to maintain his position. The King of Prussia, therefore, thought it necessary to detach another corps under the command of General Schenkendorf.

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On the 15th of October, the Russians extended themselves, in different detachments, from the environs of Stargard, along a line of five miles from that town. Lieutenant-Colonel Tekelly was opposed to one of these detachments with some squadrons of hussars and Cossacs; and General Berg charged Suworow with the attack; Tekelly, therefore, received a reinforcement, and Colonel Medem also hastened to join him with a squadron of the dragoons of Twer.

Before break of day, the Cossacs fell upon a village which was occupied by infantry, and rendered themselves masters of it. The Prussian detachment was in a plain beyond it. The Russians in coming out of a wood, along a very narrow way, were much annoyed by two pieces of the enemy's cannon; but as soon as they could extend themselves, Colonel Medem fell, sword in hand, on the Prussian battalion: Tekelly and Suworow supported him with the light troops; cut off the left flank

flank of the Prussians, which consisted chiefly of hussars, and having, after a vigorous resistance, driven them into a morass, made prisoners of those who had escaped the sword. In this engagement Suworow and his horse were bemired in the marshy ground, and a dragoon displayed no common zeal and activity in relieving him from the perilous situation.

Towards the conclusion of the combat, General Berg arrived with a large part of his corps. The Russians now returned with their prisoners to Stargard, and Suworow remained with the rear guard. But no sooner had they begun their march, than several parties of the enemies troops were seen advancing from the hills against them, led on by the regiment of Finkenstein. Suworow had with him about sixty Cossacs, with whom he instantly seized a squadron of hussars which immediately preceeded him. With this handful of troops he ventured to

attack the enemy's dragoons on the two wings, forced them to give way, and took two field-pieces with about twenty men. But as he was soon surrounded by the enemy, there was no possibility of his escaping but by cutting a passage through them; an effort which was crowned with success. He was under the necessity of leaving the cannon; but he contrived to carry off his prisoners. Tekelli now rejoined him with some squadrons of hussars and three regiments of Cossacs. On receiving this reinforcement, he renewed the engagement, which lasted an hour. The Prussians lost about a thousand men in killed and prisoners, among whom was the commanding officer, Major Podstcharli.

The Prussians had entrenched themselves near Colberg; and their number was now augmented to thirty-five thousand men; but though there was an abundance of provisions in the place, the army could not de-

give any advantage from that circumstance, as it had so long been in a state of blockade. At the end of October, therefore, General Platen marched to Stettin, with 12,000 men, in order to revictual his army; leaving behind him a body of troops, amounting to 3000 in Troppau, under the command of General Knobloch. At the same time, in order to oppose his passage, General Berg detached Colonel Schtschetnew with two regiments of cavalry, and some squadrons of hussars and Cossacs, which Count Romanzow enforced with a very considerable detachment.

On the junction of Prince Dolgorucki with Romanzow, the Russian army that blockaded Colberg was equal in number to that of the Prussians, whose object was to relieve it. There were frequent engagements between the advanced posts of the two armies; redoubts and batteries were alternately

taken and abandoned ; but these partial contests did not bring on any decisive action.

The Russian light troops advanced from the environs of the village of Stargort against General Platen, and the hostile parties approached each other on the near side of the river Rega. General Berg entrusted the command to Colonel Schtfchetnew, and went himself, on horseback, escorted by two squadrons of hussars and as many regiments of Cossacs, to reconnoitre the Prussians. As he advanced from a wood, by a narrow way, he found the Prussians ready to receive him. It was their left wing which presented itself in this unexpected manner: he, however, turned its flank at full speed, without being incommoded by their field-pieces; but the dragoons pursued him sword in hand. There was, about a quarter of a mile before him, a tract of marshy ground, several hundred paces in breadth, an obstacle which the Russians

fians surmounted with great difficulty. The Prussian dragoons and hussars were close at their heels but no sooner had they passed the morafs in their pursuit, than the Russians wheeled about, drove them back into the midst of it, and took a considerable number of them.

The main body of the Russians was still at some distance. To the left of the village, and about 3 or 400 paces from it, there was an open road, which the regiment of Finkenstein dragoons crossed, and halted on the banks of the river. The Russian and Prussian armies were now separated only by a small hill, and a very narrow hollow way. When the first Prussian squadron presented itself, Suworow, with two hundred hussars, turned them by the hollow way, and attacked them sword in hand. He was received with a discharge of their carbines, and the action was warmly contested; but the squadron was at length driven off the field.

The platoon firing of some Prussian battalions, who were on the other side of the river, was without effect.

In the mean time, the main body of the Russians advanced : but as night approached the two armies separated, and the Prussians returned to their camp.

After a succession of skirmishes, in which the superior strength of the enemy predominated, Suworow applied to General Fermor, whose head-quarters were in the neighbourhood of Arenswald, for a reinforcement, which was accordingly promised to him. As he was on his return to General Berg, he was overtaken by a violent storm, accompanied with heavy rain. He had only two Cossacs with him, and having lost his way, in a thick wood, on the next day came suddenly upon the Prussian camp, which was within three miles of Gohnau. Though nothing could be more unexpected by him than such an accident,

accident, he availed himself of it to make observations, which on a future occasion were highly useful to him. He, however, quickly retraced his way to his own corps, which was not more than half a mile from the Prussian army.

He had not changed his clothes, when the Russians proceeded to attack the enemy.—In the mean time, Prince Wolgonsky approached with two regiments of cuirassiers, and Lieutenant-General Count Panin was detached with three battalions, by General Fermor, who himself followed with a considerable escort.

Towards noon, the advanced guard of General Platen, commanded by Colonel de la Motte Courbiere, moved forward to attack the Russians on a large plain, without wood, and which, from the inundation, occasioned by the late storm, had the appearance of a morass. This advanced guard con-

sisted of two battalions and about ten squadrons of hussars and Bosnian cavalry.—The Russian hussars which led the march were immediately defeated by the Prussians, and, among many others, Lieutenant-Colonel Fukur was made prisoner by Kipski, the Bosnian commandant. Six squadrons of horse grenadiers followed the hussars.—Suworow overtook them and placed himself at their head. They had been harrassed in their march by the musquetry of the enemy, but had not sustained any considerable loss. At this time, Courbiere had formed his battalions in a square, and the horse grenadiers, instantly forming themselves in lines, attacked it with irresistible impetuosity. The fire of the Prussians was weak and ineffectual, from the humid state of their pieces. They were at length surrounded, and the whole square threw down their arms. Suworow immediately set about rallying his hussars ; and, having got them together and strengthened them with a party of Cossacs,

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he fell suddenly upon the Prussian cavalry, who were advancing towards them, and made many prisoners; among whom was Kipski, the Bosnian commandant. Lieutenant-Colonel Fukur accordingly recovered his liberty.

General Platen, who was not yet in motion, was a quarter of a mile behind his advanced guard. A body of foraging dragoons were in his front; but Suworow fell upon, and took the greater part of, them.

The detachment of Courbiere, which consisted, including the foragers, of near two thousand men, had two hundred killed, and the rest were made prisoners; among whom were forty superior and field officers. The few who escaped were indebted for their preservation to the swiftness of their horses. On the side of the Russians, the hussars suffered the most; but the horse grenadiers lost no more than fifty men.

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The troops, that the Count Fermor had detached, were yet at a certain distance; while Generals Berg and Wolgoniski remained in a village with their forces. Platen now wheeled about, and marched through the woods to Golnau: but he only passed through the place, where he left a small number of infantry, and formed his camp on the other side of it.

Before day-break the Russians were in motion, and halted on this side the town; the gate was immediately cannonaded, but it was so strongly barricaded as to resist the attack. In consequence of this failure, Panin, at a very early hour of the morning, dispatched his grenadiers under the conduct of Suworow, and two battalions of fusileers.

That officer brought his troops at once to the gate, through which, and from the walls, the Prussians kept up a constant fire, by which a captain and some officers were killed. Su-

worow

Suworow himself lost his horse, and was some time on foot, while his people were exerting themselves to force the larger gate : but at this moment Lieutenant Taubrin disengaged, with his own hand, a bayonet that fastened the smaller gate on the inside ; by which means a passage was opened for the grenadiers, who rushed into the streets, fell upon the garrison, made a great part of it prisoners, and pursued the rest to the bridge on the other side of the town, and in sight of the Prussian camp.—Suworow was hurrying onwards, when some of his troops, who were behind, called upon him to turn back, —and at that moment he found himself alone with Taubrin. It was in this position he received a contusion on his breast from the rebound of a musket-ball, discharged from the other side of the wall ; but it did not prove mortal.—He immediately went into a house to bathe his wound with brandy, till the superior aid of a surgeon could be procured.

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The Count Panin had also entered the town with his battalion, so that the Russians were in complete possession of it ; but as it had never been their intention to maintain it in the face of Platen's army, they very soon abandoned it.

The Russians now returned, in different bodies, to their respective stations : but Platen proceeded by Damm to Stettin. Berg also marched with the light troops to Treptow, where Knobloch was blockaded with the three thousand men he commanded of the Prussian body of reserve. At his approach, Knobloch surrendered himself prisoner to Count Romanzow. In consequence of that event, Berg returned to Stargard, where he generally fixed his head-quarters.

Colonel Medem being obliged, from his bad state of health, to submit to a suspension of his military service, Suworow took
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upon him the command of the dragoons of Twer.

The Prussians renewed their efforts on the side of Colberg, against the Russians, with strong detachments of observation. General Berg, therefore, immediately began his march with the left column of his forces, and charged Suworow with the conduct of the right, which consisted of three regiments of hussars, two regiments of Cossacs, and the regiment of dragoons of Twer.

He now advanced against Naugarten, where two battalions were posted, with Pomeniski's regiment of dragoons. Suworow made his attack in two lines, with intervals, and broke through the dragoons: he then charged the battalion of Prince Ferdinand, killed a considerable number, and took upwards of a hundred prisoners; the greater part of which belonged to the prince's own company. In this attack, he very narrowly escaped,

escaped, for the horse he rode was twice wounded by musquet-shot. The Prussians, however, kept up such a fire from the houses, that the Russians were compelled to retreat, and formed upon a hill to the right. They left many of their comrades behind them; but, the death of the brave Major Erdmann was a subject of universal regret.

General Platen at length appeared with a considerable convoy of provisions, which he was conducting from Stettin to Colberg. He marched with the main body of the army, so that, though they never quitted him, the Russians found it impossible to make an attack with any prospect of success.

Suworow had sent thirty dragoons with an officer on a foraging party, at a small distance from Regenwald, who were intercepted by a regiment of Prussian dragoons. He considered them as lost; but, on the next day, the brave officer and his party returned. He
had

had lost only six men, and in revenge had brought several prisoners with him.

It was now the end of November; the season extremely cold, and the roads strewn with frozen Prussians. Forced marches had destroyed their clothes, and they were but wretchedly protected against the inclemency of the weather. On the contrary, the Russians were warmly clad, and lost but few of their people.

Platen now approached Colberg; the Russians followed his example, and Suworow took post, with the dragoons of Twer and two other regiments of horse grenadiers, in the left wing of Count Romanzow's army.

On the first of December, Platen took his position on a hill. The Russian cavalry had dismounted in consequence of the cold; when the Prussian artillery began to play upon the flank of the Russians, which compelled

pelled the horse grenadiers to retire to a greater distance ; though they still remained near the dragoons of Twer, who had not quitted their situation.

The Russians were protected in front by a deep hollow, formed by nature, which was now filled with snow. It was, therefore, impossible for the enemy to attack them ; at the same time, they were equally prevented from attacking the enemy. On the other side of the ditch, there was a Prussian redoubt, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Stakelberg, and defended by three companies of grenadiers. The Russians assaulted this redoubt with great spirit, and were for some time repulsed with equal bravery ; but, at length, the commandant was defeated and taken prisoner, with a part of his troops and two pieces of cannon.

Platen now endeavoured to introduce his provision-waggons into Colberg, by three different

different passages, but such a constant fire was employed against him from the Russian entrenchments, that he found it impossible to effect his design. In the evening of the day, when he made this unsuccessful attempt, he retired with all his troops to Treptau, and lost a great number of them from the severity of the frost. The two battalions of Schenkendorf, which formed a part of the advanced posts, alone sustained a loss of six hundred men.

Lieutenant-Colonel de Heyde, who commanded in the town of Colberg, not having sufficient provisions for the supply of his garrison, was under the necessity of refusing Prince Eugene of Wurtemberg the quota he demanded; who accordingly left the place and formed a junction with Platen. There were now no Prussians before Colberg; and Prince Eugene having quitted Platen, the latter was left alone to conduct

the remains of his army, which had melted down from thirty-five to ten thousand men. With them, however, he bravely maintained his winter-quarters in Saxony.

The Russian light troops skirted the Prussians on their march, and a few slight skirmishes took place in the course of it. When General Platen removed to Stargard, Suw6row attacked his rear guard with the dragoons of Twer, but he obtained no advantage, as his cavalry floundered in a morass which was not sufficiently frozen to bear them, and where the enemy's infantry could maintain their ground.—He escaped, however, without any considerable loss.

The same night, General Berg threw some grenades into Stargard, at the moment when General Platen had formed the design to abandon it.

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On the 16th of December, Colonel de Heyde, surrendered to Count Romanzow, and thus this campaign was brought to a termination. The latter remained in Pomerania with the light troops, and the Count Fermor, with the rest of the army, fixed his winter quarters on the banks of the Vistula.

On the 16th of March, 1762, the Prince Molgoniski and the Duke of Bevern, governor of Stettin, agreed to an armistice; that was followed by a treaty of peace between Russia and Prussia, which was signed on the 5th of May in the same year.

In the course of the same month, General Berg, accompanied by several of his officers, paid a visit to the Duke of Bevern, and was received with splendid hospitality. A superb entertainment was provided on the occasion, and the evening was enlivened with the dance.

On the following morning, the duke accompanied his visitors on horse-back through every part of the fortress, and its out-works. He paid particular attention to Suworow, and permitted him to copy a plan of the campaign which was then meditated against Denmark. All the Russian officers remained at Stettin till the next day, when they took their leave, highly pleased and flattered by the very polite and hospitable reception of the Duke of Bevern.

Colonel Medem returned to his regiment of Twer, when Suworow received the command of the regiment of dragoons of Archangelgorod. Although he was attached to the infantry service, Count Romanzow presented him, at the general promotion, as colonel of cavalry, from his superior knowledge in that department of the army ; but there were certain obstacles which caused that line of promotion to be abandoned. Soon after,

after, the Count Panin, who commanded in Pomerania, sent him to Petersburg with an account of the return of the troops. On this occasion, he gave him a special letter of recommendation to the empress, who presented him a colonel's commission, written with her own hand.

C H A P. II.

SUWOROW IS ADVANCED TO THE RANK OF
BRIGADIER. — CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE
CONFEDERATES IN POLAND.

IN the month of August, 1762, Suworow was appointed colonel of the regiment of infantry of Astrachan, which was in garrison at Petersburg; and when the ceremonial of her coronation called the empress to Moscow, she ordered him to remain at Petersburg, where she charged him with the execution of some very important commissions. After her return, his regiment was sent to distant service, and was replaced by the infantry regiment of Susdal, consisting of more than a thousand men, of which he received the command in 1763. Suworow employed himself very much in forwarding the new manœuvres

manœuvres, which were introduced into the Russian service at that period; and the empress expressed great satisfaction when she first saw them practised at a review, which she honoured with her presence, in the beginning of the autumn. The officers were admitted to kiss her hand, and every private soldier received a rouble for his particular gratification.

In the autumn of the following year, Colonel Suworow went, with his regiment, into garrison at Ladoga.

In 1765, a camp of exercise, consisting of thirty thousand men, was formed on a large plain before Ksaroselo. The empress commanded, in person, the division of St. Petersburg; and the Count Panin commanded that of Finland. Suworow was there, among the light troops, with the first battalion of his regiment; the second battalion, com-

manded by Lieutenant-Colonel Ballabin, being appointed to do duty at the head-quarters of her imperial majesty. The camp continued during six days, when the divisions separated, and Suworow's regiment returned to Ladoga.

In 1768, Colonel Suworow was advanced to the rank of brigadier; and, as the war was just commenced against the confederates of Poland, he was ordered to repair, with all speed, to the frontiers of that kingdom, in the course of November, and in the most unfavourable season of the year. In order to habituate his regiment to the fatigues of war, he proceeded from Ladoga to Nowogorod. He passed various bridges, crossed rivers and morasses, whose passage was rendered more difficult by slight frosts, and traversed a thousand versts, or five hundred English miles, in the course of a month. In this extraordinary and fatiguing march, he

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lost only a few men in the environs of Smolensko.

The body of troops which marched into Poland, consisted of four regiments of infantry, two regiments of cuirassiers, and two brigadiers, under the command in chief of Lieutenant-General Nummer. Suworow commanded a brigade. During the winter, he was continually engaged in improving his regiment in their manœuvres, and habituating them to every action that would be required, and every circumstance that might happen, in a state of actual service.

In the following summer of 1769, these troops were stationed on the frontiers of Poland. General Nummer took his route to Orsa, and Brigadier Suworow had preceded him, some days, with the advanced guard. It was composed of a squadron of cuirassiers, a squadron of dragoons, and his own regiment of Sussal. He had distributed the
whole

whole into four battalions; one of grenadiers, another of tirailleurs, and two of fusileers. They remained for some weeks in an entrenched camp, before Orsa, and then proceeded on their march to Minski, the advanced guard being conducted by Suworow. On his arrival in that country, he extinguished, on their first appearance, the disturbances that threatened it. He did not, however, remain there for any length of time, but was dispatched in great haste to Warsaw with his regiment, and two squadrons of dragoons; and, to facilitate the march, he distributed his corps into two columns. All his infantry was conveyed on farmers waggon, with bayonets fixed, that they might be prepared for any sudden attack. One half of the dragoons, in order to save their horses, went alternately in the waggon, and the other half led the horses of their comrades. Thus they travelled, and in twelve days arrived in the suburbs of Praga, on the other side of Warsaw.

In

In his march, Suworow crossed Lithuania, where he appeased the discontents of the people. The Hulan regiments of Peliak and Korfizki being encamped in the environs of Brzescia, he surprized them during the night, by levelling a cannon, which had been escorted by a company of infantry, against the door of the principal officer's quarters. The rest of the troops remained as a body of reserve, and the business was completed without effusion of blood. The two chiefs, with their officers and squadrons, gave a written engagement never more to take up arms against the Russians, and immediately abandoned the confederacy.

General Weimarn being appointed to the principal command in Poland, he ordered Brigadier Suworow to attend him secretly in the night, and informed him that very great uneasinesses prevailed throughout the city of Warsaw, which were occasioned by the march of the rebel Marshal Kotelupowski, who was

8

advancing

advancing with eight thousand men, as well by land as on the Vistula.—Suworow immediately collected a company of grenadiers, a squadron of dragoons, fifty light troops, and some Cossacs, with one piece of artillery, and proceeded up the left bank of the Vistula; and when he had advanced about a mile, he crossed the river, at a place where it was not of any great depth, to meet Kotelupowski; whom he completely routed, and made several prisoners. From the latter he endeavoured to discover the real number of the confederates, as well as the detachments of their troops, the places where they were stationed, and the names of their chiefs.

In the course of a few weeks it was known, that the two Marshals Pulawski, as well as others of equal rank, were in Lithuania with ten thousand confederates. Suworow, accordingly, put himself in motion with a detachment, composed of one company of grenadiers, two companies of fusileers, a
light

light battalion of tirailleurs, a squadron of dragoons, fifty Colfacs, and two pieces of cannon. By forced marches he arrived at Brzescia, where he received a confirmation of the preceding intelligence.

The confederates were closely followed by Colonel Roenne, with two thousand men, and by Lieutenant-Colonel Drewiz, with fifteen hundred. Under these circumstances, Suworow did not make any stay at Brzescia; he only entered it to station a part of his troops there, in order to maintain the post, and was not prevented by the night from proceeding with the remainder. In the morning they fell in with a patrol of fifty carabineers, which Colonel Roenne had sent out on a reconnoitring party, under the command of Count Gastelli, captain of cavalry, and they took this patrol along with him.

About noon, and after a march of three miles, this small detachment discovered the

confederates : they consisted of cavalry alone, and were stationed in the depth of a wood. Suworow, accordingly, proceeded by two defiles, till he came to a morass, with a bridge that was covered by a battery of the enemy, containing two cannons ; which was all the artillery the confederates possessed. The column of infantry passed the bridge with great rapidity ; and sustained some loss from the fire which was directed at it ; when, having the wood in their rear, they found themselves, in a moment, in the front of the enemy's lines, which presented themselves in a semi-circular form on an open plain. This spot was the centre of the confederate army, so that the Russians were, in a great measure, surrounded. Suworow, at the head of fifty dragoons, instantly rushed upon the battery, but, not being supported by his people, was in a situation of great danger ; while the confederates, instead of employing their cannon in defending it, had drawn them behind their lines, as it appeared, with a view

view to preserve them, and they succeeded. They, however, instantly attacked the Russian infantry in front, with the greater part of their squadron; the former, however, defended themselves with distinguished bravery, and being very expert in the use of the fire-lock, dealt destruction around them: at length, after a very severe contest, the confederates were forced to give way. They returned, however, four times to the charge, with fresh squadrons, and were as often compelled to fly from the galling power of the Russian musquetry. The Count Castelli, with the carabineers, pursued them in their successive retreats, and put a great number to the sword. He was also attacked, in his turn, by the elder Pulawoski, the senior marshal of the confederates, who received a pistol-shot in the encounter, of which he died on the following day.

The Cossacs were scattered in small parties on the rear of the Russian troops, which could

could not be attacked, as it was completely protected by the wood; and the confederates did not attempt to dismount, and continue the engagement on foot. Nevertheless, the major on duty frequently exclaimed, that they were cut off: for which ill-founded alarm Suworow ordered him to be put under immediate arrest.

The night was now approaching; and the confederates had formed their lines in front of the village of Orzechoba; which, by discharging grenades from a howitzer, was soon set on fire; and, the infantry seizing the moment of alarm to attack the enemy with bayonets fixed, they fled, in great disorder, through the flames of the village. Suworow ordered his small body of cavalry to follow them. In the pursuit, they met Pinski's regiment of dragoons, which consisted of only one hundred men, who instantly dismounted, in order to continue the engagement with advantage from behind the hedges;

hedges ; but the greater part of them were either cut in pieces, or made prisoners of war. The confederates made some attempts to renew the engagement, but Suworow having ordered a constant fire to be kept up in the wood, whose echoes might deceive them as to the number of his troops, they soon wheeled about, and left him master of the field. They lost on this occasion about a thousand men, among whom were several officers ; with a hundred prisoners, who were immediately sent off to Warsaw. This body of confederates did not amount to more than half the number which had been originally reported.

Suworow now took his route to Lublin, and ordered the troops, which he had left at Brzescia, to follow him.

Lublin is a central point of Poland and Lithuania. This circumstance determined

the brigadier to fix on this town as a proper place for establishing his cantonment, though it was not capable of being defended. It possessed a long extent of walls, which were in a very ruinous state, and an old castle, that had often been besieged and taken, by Peter the First, Charles the Twelfth, and the Kings Augustus and Stanislaus; nor had since received any reparation. Suworow seized upon the small towns in the vicinity of Lublin, several of which were defended by fortifications. After some time, he established communications with Cracow, and Sandomir, a place of some strength. He occasionally placed a garrison in Opatow, which is also on the other side of the Vistula; but he made Lublin the depôt of his artillery, stores, and magazines; and from thence sent out his parties, as circumstances might require. He was continually passing the Vistula, to Pulava, to Urshentowa, to Zawitschvost, as well as to

Sandimir; and maintained this position during the time of his abode in Poland, which occupied a space of near three years.

His corps was soon reinforced by that part of his regiment of Sundal, which he had left at Praga, as well as by two companies of the grenadiers of Narva, and an equal number of the regiment of carabineers of Petersburg, and of the third regiment of cuirassiers; but he had not more than a hundred Cossacs.

The Russian army in Poland required the establishment of four major-generals, and Suworow was accordingly advanced to that rank, on the first of January, 1770.

We shall pass over the many slight engagements which took place in the course of this year, and only dwell upon such as were distinguished by circumstances which demand a particular description. In the month of April, Major-General Suworow passed the

Vistula at Zawitschwoft, in search of Colonel Noschinski, of Sandomir. He took with him, on this occasion, two companies of fusileers, two squadrons of carabineers, fifty Cossacs, and two field-pieces: and the colonel being at Clementow, he directed his march to that place. As this small detachment was passing a village in the night, the report of a carbine, which was accidentally discharged, brought out some peasants from their cottages, who were immediately employed as guides by the Russian troops, and discovered to them that they were close upon the confederates, whom they imagined to be at a considerable distance.

They accordingly fell in with the enemy at day-break, who were already on horse-back to receive them. They consisted of about a thousand men, had taken their position on a plain by the side of a wood, and their squadrons were formed in small squares. Suworow advanced against them with the
carabineers,

carabineers, who, notwithstanding his orders to the contrary, discharged their pieces, and immediately halted : the confederate troops, however, received the fire with a steady composure. He then ordered the infantry to advance with all possible speed, and, after a discharge of musquetry, they rushed on with their bayonets. But the enemy, for some time, kept up a very smart fire with six field-pieces, and then retreated : and though they continued to defend themselves, the cavalry pursued them with great slaughter. During the engagement, the major-general ordered a party to take possession of Clementow ; and the confederates dispersed themselves in the wood. They lost all their artillery, with near three hundred men ; while the Russians did not lose more than a sixth part of that number.

In the middle of the summer, when Colonel Moschinski had received a reinforcement, Suworow gained a second victory over him

at Opatow, killed a hundred of his men, and made as many prisoners, the greater part of which had been wounded in the engagement.

In the course of the autumn, Major-General Suworow attempted an operation on the Vistula, but, from the rapidity of the current, he missed the pontoon, in leaping from the bank, and, falling into the river, was in great danger of being drowned. After many fruitless attempts to save him, a grenadier at length seized a lock of his hair, and drew him to the bank; but in getting out of the water, he struck his breast against a pontoon, which caused a violent contusion that threatened his life; and from which he did not recover for several months.

Towards the end of the year, the empress graciously sent him the order of Saint Anne.

In

In the month of March, 1771, Suworow left Libnin with four companies of infantry, three squadrons of carabineers, about a hundred Cossacs, and some field-pieces, and passed the Vistula, near Sandomir. In his march to Cracow, he was successful in several small engagements, and at length attacked Landskron, a town about four miles distant from that city. Here he experienced a very vigorous resistance; and though he soon made himself master of the place, he found it impracticable to take the castle. The Russians suffered greatly both in killed and wounded, from the musquetry of the confederates. The general himself appears to have been in great danger, as his hat and coat were pierced with bullets. On his retiring to repose himself in a neighbouring village, he was attacked by the confederate General Schutz. The contest was but of short duration, and after some loss on both sides, Schutz thought it prudent to retreat.

While General Suworow was absent from Lublin, a considerable number of the confederates had assembled in that canton where Colonel Stakelberg then commanded. He, therefore, returned thither by forced marches, and, in his way, took the small town of Cafimir. The cavalry entered first, and immediately routed the greater part of the confederates who occupied it; while many of them fled and hid themselves. On the arrival of the infantry, an immediate search was made after them; and the general having ordered them, for that purpose, to distribute themselves in all the streets; it so happened, that he was left entirely alone. At this moment perceiving in a large barn, a party of cavalry who had fled, he addressed them in a friendly manner, promised them a pardon, and ordered them to come forth. The commanding officer immediately quitted the building, and his people followed him on foot, leading their horses, but unfortunately some Cossacs arriving at the spot, one of them

them discharged a pistol at the Poles, who immediately fired at the offender, but without manifesting the least intention to hurt Suworow, and retired into the barn, where they enclosed themselves. The general ordered it to be instantly invested, and threatened to burn it, if they did not surrender themselves. Alarmed at the menace, they immediately submitted. It was the first and finest squadron of Marshal Saba, consisting of fifty men. In this unexpected attack, a hundred Poles were killed, and three hundred taken prisoners.

It was not easy to decide whether it would have been a prudent measure, at this time, to attack Marshal Pulawski, with whom Saba, with a considerable body of troops, had just formed a junction; especially as the Russians were so charged with prisoners; but Suworow had learned the art of applying his measures to the circumstances around him: he accordingly ordered the infantry to advance

vance to the attack. They were no more than five miles from Krasnik, which was actually besieged by the confederates, and was gallantly defended by three companies of the Salski regiment. However, on the arrival of Suworow, the confederates dispersed themselves in the woods, and he did not think it necessary to attempt an engagement with them.

Suworow had not been long returned to Lublin, when he was informed by General Weimar, that the confederates were taking positions round Cracow, and that they contrived to cut off his convoys of provisions, though he had a strong Russian garrison in the place.

Accordingly, in the middle of May, the general put himself in motion, with four companies of grenadiers, a battalion of fusiliers, eight field-pieces and mortars, five squadrons of carabineers, and eighty Cossacs.

He

He halted upon the left bank of the Vistula, but made no attempt to pass it. In this position it seldom happened that a day passed without being engaged with parties of confederates, which were sometimes very numerous. On approaching the river Duneyetz, Suworow found the confederates in considerable force. Accordingly, he thought it necessary to form a battery, for the purpose of commanding a passage; but as the river was deep, and the Russians were not furnished with pontoons, the grenadiers who first attempted to pass it, found themselves up to their necks in the water: Colonel Tschepelow, however, discovered a ford at a very small distance, and he conducted the cavalry over it, under the protection of the battery. He immediately attacked the advanced posts, the infantry followed him, and the confederates sustained a very heavy loss. Some squadrons of the enemy's dragoons had posted themselves on the mines of Belitscha, and at first made some resistance, but when the infantry arrived

rived, they retired to the neighbourhood of Cracow.

Towards noon General Surworow proceeded to that city, where Colonel Drewiz commanded a regiment of Tschugujewski, a regiment of the Don Cossacs, four companies of infantry, and as many of carabineers. As night approached, this body of troops marched to Tynez, a fortified town at the distance of a mile from Cracow. Drewiz was ordered to push forward, when he fell in with a numerous body of confederate cavalry, who were enjoying the sweets of sleep, nor did he disturb them; but by the time the general arrived, they were all mounted, and at the moment of their departure. He immediately ordered the two first companies of grenadiers to make an assault upon a redoubt, defended by a hundred men, and two pieces of cannon. They soon got possession of it with small loss, and put almost
all

all the garrison to the sword ; but could only bring off one piece of artillery.

Here Suworow remained, and did not make an assault upon Tynez, which was too well fortified to justify such a proceeding. On the following day, he marched to Landskron, and drew up his troops on the heights before the town, in order of battle, when a very smart skirmish immediately followed. The confederates, to the number of four thousand, had their left wing supported by Landskron, and their right extended to the left of the Russians. In their front were a hundred and fifty chasseurs, commanded by a French officer, and at the distance of a quarter of a mile there was some very rough ground. Suworow ordered the Cossacs of Tschugujewski to charge the chasseurs, and Colonel Tschepetow, with a squadron of carabineers, to support them. The Cossacs immediately flew to the attack, and a considerable part of the chasseurs were left dead

on the field. The action was on the point of becoming general, when the confederates began to give way : their right wing was the first to retreat, and the Russian cavalry pursued them for upwards of a mile, towards Biala, on the frontiers of Silesia. Five hundred men lost their lives on this occasion, among whom were the Marshal Orzescha of Lithuania, and the Prince Sapiéha, of Great Poland. The Russians made two hundred prisoners, and Marshal Loffozki, of Warsaw, and Miamzinski, were of the number. The French Brigadier-General Dumourier, (since become so notorious, from his conduct in the early campaigns of the present war) was at the head of the confederates on this occasion ; but soon quitted them, and returned to France.

After this engagement, General Suworow retained the Don Cossacs of Drewiz, in his service, and set off on his return to Lublin. As he approached the little river Son, he
passed

passed near a wood, from whence he received a very brisk fire; but continued his route without returning it. Soon after, he met a part of the Warsaw confederates, consisting of five hundred dragoons and hussars. They charged the Russian cavalry with great bravery, but were received sword in hand, and, after a vigorous resistance, with some loss on both sides, were finally repulsed.

During this time, Pulawski,* with two thousand men, had rendered himself master of Zamoscie; from whence Suworow resolved to dislodge him. The Polish marshal, however, did not wait for his arrival, but came out of the town to give him battle: but his troops were scarcely formed, when the Russian cavalry and Cossacs fell unexpectedly upon them; and, after some resistance, put them to the rout; with the loss of two hundred killed, and as many prisoners, among whom were eight officers. The general now returned to Lublin.

At

At this period, the empress conferred on Major-General Suworow the Order of Saint George, of the third class, as a testimony of the satisfaction she had received from his services.

The outermost post on the left wing of the garrison was at Sokal, on the river Bug, and consisted of some fusileers, with two corporals, and half a squadron of dragoons, under the command of a lieutenant named Wedeniapin. Some time before, Suworow had presented him with a piece of artillery that had been taken from the Poles; and he instantly thought himself a great commander. He accordingly opened his campaign without orders, and marched by Lemberg to the small town of Tomorloff, where he commanded—his dinner; but before he could complete the important service of eating it, he was surprized by some inhospitable confederates, led on by Colonel Noviski; and instead of attacking his soup, he was obliged
to

to defend himself. Though some of the dragoons cut their way through the enemy, the greater part of his infantry were made mince-meat, and the rest, to the number of fifteen, surrendered as prisoners, and their gallant commander along with them.

About a month afterwards, Noviski, with a superb detachment of cavalry, consisting of a thousand men, marched to Krasnik, which was at no great distance from the place where Suworow then was. At that time, the latter had sent several parties into Lithuania and Poland, as he frequently did, to prevent the confederates from reinforcing themselves; so that he had but a very small force with him,

On receiving intelligence of Noviski's approach, Suworow immediately detached two companies of infantry, with two field-pieces, a squadron of carabineers, and some Cossacs, under the command of a field-officer. It

was his wish to have entrusted this business to Berghotz, a captain of cavalry, and the only partisan who was then with him; but he was not to be found at the moment when he was wanted. The field-officer, therefore, marched against Noviski, but not thinking himself sufficiently strong, he turned aside, and did not choose to risk an engagement.

Noviski proceeded towards Krasnostow, where there was a squadron of cuirassiers, with a company of fusileers, and some Cossacs. Suworow detached some squadrons of cavalry to harass him on his route, and then went himself, with six Cossacs, and some officers, to join the field-officer who has been already mentioned; and, as soon as it was night, he sent Bestuschow, with a Cossac, to make enquiries in a neighbouring château. Noviski was actually there with a part of his people; but the master of the place saved Bestuschow, by letting him through a garden-

den-gate, without being perceived; and the latter hastened to a part of the wood which had been appointed, in order to make his report.

About midnight, the general entered Krasnoftow, where he found the troops which he had already dispatched there; and, having got together all his people who had been cantoned in that place, with a twelve pounder, he instantly departed.

Noviski had now posted himself in a wood, about four miles to the right of Krasnoftow; and, about noon, the Russians came up with him; when Suworow, passing the bridge of a mill, at the head of his dragoons, began the attack. The confederates defended themselves with great bravery; but, after a vigorous resistance, were dispersed and pursued.

The Russian general returned by Krasnotow to Lublin, and Nowiski went back to Biala. A party of the confederates fell in with Kitriow, a Russian officer of dragoons, who, having been wounded in the late action, was now returning on a waggon ; but the Poles suffered him and his small escort to pass on without interruption.

In the beginning of the month of August, the famous Kosakowski, one of the confederates who had taken refuge in Hungary, arrived in Lithuania, and, by his extraordinary talents and exertions, threw the duchy into a flame. He had collected a large body of recruits, and had excited the regular troops to revolt and join the confederation.

The Count Orginski, grand marshal of Lithuania, came from Warsaw, in order to take the command. At the same time Kosakowski published manifestos, admirably cal-

culated to influence the people to whom they were addressed; and, though he conferred the title of marshal on others, according to his good pleasure, he appeared to consider himself in these papers as nothing more than a common citizen of Lithuania. He clothed the troops, which he had just raised, in a black uniform.

The Colonels Turing and Drewiz were detached against this new confederation in Lithuania with upwards of two thousand men, and a sufficient artillery equipment. A Russian corps had also arrived, under the command of General Kaschkin, which was appointed to cover the frontiers of Lithuania. The Petersburg legion was also cantoned, by battalions, in that dutchy. One of them, however, commanded by Colonel Abutchef, was surprised by the army of Lithuania; and, after a very brave defence, was obliged to surrender. This battalion consisted of five hundred men, with fifteen

officers, and two pieces of cannon. The Count Ogynski received the officers at his own table, permitted them to retain their swords, and indulged them to be on their parole.

The loss of this battalion soon reached General Suworow, at Lublin; and he immediately began his march with two companies of grenadiers, an equal number of fusileers, a squadron of carabineers, and fifty Cossacs. With this small body of troops, and with only two Licornes, he proceeded by Kozk to Biala, in Lithuania. He there re-inforced himself with the legion of Petersburg, commanded by Colonel Gaerner, one squadron of cuirassiers, and another of dragoons, with two grenadier and fusileer companies, and fifty Cossacs; the whole of which did not exceed a thousand men. With this force, he immediately proceeded to penetrate into the heart of Lithuania.

Towards

Towards the close of the third day, he received accounts that the confederates were not more than four miles from him, in a very advantageous post before Stalowiz. He well knew that he could depend upon his troops, who were enured to war, with all the fatigue and dangers attendant upon it. In the evening, therefore, they began their march, without beat of drum, and the infantry formed the advanced guard. It was a woody country through which they were to pass; the sky was covered with clouds, the night uncommonly dark, and, during a great part of it, they had no other guide but a light, which glimmered from the turret of a convent near the town of Stalowiz. When they were about half way, the patrols took four hussars prisoners, who served as guides for the remainder of it.

As it is an open country immediately round Stalowiz, General Suworow, when he was within half a mile of the place, ranged

his troops in lines. On the first, was the company of grenadiers distributed on the wings; near it were the companies of the Petersburg legion, and, behind it, was the company of the fusileers of Nassebourg: the two Licornes were in the centre. The second line was composed of three squadrons of cavalry. The body of reserve formed the the last, and consisted of a company of fusileers of Susdal, and two platoons of cavalry, who, with some Cossacs, were distributed in the wings.

The Russians proceeded till they found themselves by chance on the very back of the confederates, who were covered by a marsh, through which run a dyke, of about two hundred yards in length, which they approached in close ranks, and with the most cautious silence. Backul, with his detachment, cut down the advanced sentinels; but his corps was, nevertheless, discovered by the enemy, and received with a very brisk fire,
both

both of artillery and musquetry. The grenadier company of Sufdal, commanded by Major Kifelow, was forced to break the enemy's centre, by falling instantly upon it; and, though it was in a movement of great danger, and accompanied with some loss, it was crowned with success. Three squadrons rushed into the opening that had been made, and employed their sabres on all sides with a most destructive power. The rest of the infantry soon came up, and the confederates being thrown into disorder, which was greatly increased by the obscurity of the night, were entirely routed and pursued into the town. Annibal ventured to conduct the Licornes across the morais, but they sunk in the mire, and the Russians were left without artillery. Captain Schuffel, with the company of Naslebourg, attacked three hundred janissaries, belonging to the grand marshal, in the town: they defended themselves with great spirit from the houses; but, being reinforced

inforced by a company of grenadiers, he soon disposed of the greater part of them.

General Suworow was in the town as soon as it was light, and perceiving a man running towards a house, whom he imagined to be one of his own people on a scheme of pillage, he called him back; when the man returned an answer in the Polish language, and instantly discharged his piece at him, but without effect. He proved to be one of the janissaries of the grand marshal.

In the heat of the attack, the infantry had scattered itself over the town, and before it could form, Schibulin arrived with the reserved corps. The Russians, therefore, were masters of the town. The five hundred men, of the legion of Petersburg, which had been made prisoners, a short time before, were lodged in some houses on the market-place, whose doors were barricadoed; but they

they soon leaped from their windows and recovered their liberty.

The Russian cavalry had obtained every advantage in the open country; and, as soon as it was broad day-light, the infantry marched out of the town, in good order, and attacked that of the grand marshal. This engagement, which promised to be decisive, was bravely contested by the hostile parties: at length, the Russian fusileers made an attack with the bayonet fixed; the rest of the infantry followed their example; and, after a vigorous resistance, the enemy's whole line gave way; but, being very numerous, they retreated in good order.

The Russian cavalry continued to gain ground, when General Beliak, at the head of a thousand hulans, made a very vigorous attack; many a Russian soldier was laid low by it, and several officers wounded; but, at length, after a very severe contest, Beliak
lost

lost the day. On this occasion, the Cossacs distinguished themselves by a courage and activity that nothing could resist.

The army of Lithuania retreated to a small distance from the field of battle; and, Suworow, having reformed his lines and reposed for an hour, made the necessary disposition to march to Slomin, about four miles from the scene of his victory. From his numerous prisoners, and the five hundred men of the Petersburg legion, who had recovered their liberty, but principally from the great number of equipages and waggons, &c. which had been taken, the train of Suworow's army formed a line of half a mile in length. The booty was very considerable, and the soldiers divided no small quantity of gold and silver. The military chest, which had been concealed for some days by the curate of the town, was at length discovered in his house, and was found to contain thirty thousand ducats. In the evening, the troops
approached

approached Slomin; and, on the morrow, the general gave an entertainment to the field and other officers of rank who were his prisoners. Colonel Turing, who was in the neighbourhood, came to offer his congratulations, but brought no reinforcement with him.

The whole of the Russian force on this occasion was from eight to nine hundred men; of these, fourscore were left dead on the field; and, one-half of those who survived were in a wounded condition. The army of Lithuania, which consisted of near five thousand men, lost one thousand by the sword, and seven hundred prisoners, among whom were thirty field and other officers of rank, and the commanding general of the day. All the artillery of the confederates, which consisted of twelve pieces of cannon, fell into the hands of the Russians, as well as several standards, with the baton of command, and other insignia of the grand marshal,

marshal. The dragoons of Lithuania, who had not time to mount their horses, lost the greater part of them, and they served to mount the Russian infantry on their return. General Suworow gave a rouble, from his own private purse, to every soldier who had been engaged in this action.

Soon after this important battle, the empress sent him, as conqueror of the grand marshal, the Order of Alexander Newsky, accompanied with the following dispatch:—

To Major-General de Suworow.

“ In recompense for the services which
 “ you have rendered to us, as well as to
 “ your country, by the entire defeat of the
 “ Count Oginsky, chief of the Lithuanians,
 “ who have revolted against our troops, it
 “ has pleased us to name you Knight of our
 “ Order of Alexander Newsky, whose deco-
 “ ration we send you, and which we ordain
 “ you

“ you to take and wear. We hope that
 “ these distinguished testimonies of our im-
 “ perial benevolence towards you will serve
 “ to cherish your zeal, and that you will
 “ consecrate your days to the advancement
 “ of our service. In that expectation, we
 “ assure you of the imperial esteem of your
 “ affectionate,

Petersburg,
December 20, 1771.

“ CATHERINE.”

General Suworow was no sooner returned to Slomin, than he prepared, with the utmost impatience, to set out on fresh expeditions : leaving therefore his prisoners and heavy artillery within the walls of the town, he did not wait for returning day, but began his march in the middle of the night. He accordingly proceeded to Pinsk in order to complete the dispersion of the confederates ; and had to pass through a marshy country whose roads were rendered almost impassable, by the rains which had

lately fallen. On his way he met an officer of the confederates, who was charged with conveying the strong box of his regiment, which had been well replenished with ducats; and he instantly gave him a passport for himself and the treasure to the place of his destination,

He now published a declaration to the confederates, that if they would remain tranquil, he would not attack them; and they immediately separated. General Beliak, who was next in rank to Count Oginskiy, whom the chagrin, occasioned by the loss of the battle of Stalowiz, had induced to make a journey to Danzick, refused to take the command of the confederate troops. He excused himself on account of his engagement with Suworow to undertake no enterprize whatever against the Russians; nor would he have remained till that time in his cantonments but in obedience to the orders of the grand marshal. Grabowski, who was sta-
tioned

tioned nearest to the Russian frontiers on the side of Smolensko, and had raised many thousand men, dismissed his people; and several chiefs followed his example.

There were at Pinsk many persons who belonged to the suite of Count Oginsky, whom the marshal had not taken with him to the field; while some of his people had fled for refuge to the small islands in the neighbourhood of that place. They were all treated, by Suworow's order, with a protecting attention; and he took particular care, that the possessions of the marshal should not receive the least injury. He then marched to Brzescie, where he took some prisoners whom he left at Biala; and, on his happy return to Lublin, he ordered *Te Deum* to be sung, and celebrated his victory with the accustomed ceremonies.

In the posthumous works of Frederic the Great, we read a most flattering eulogium

on the subject of this important victory, which was obtained on the 11th of September, 1771. In speaking of the battle of Stalowiz, his Prussian majesty counsels the Poles never to hazard, a second time, a contest with Suworow.

Towards the end of the year there were some engagements in the Palatinate of Rava, between Sabrowski, a colonel in the service of the confederates, who commanded four or five hundred men, and Major-General Prince Gallitzin, who entirely routed them. When Sabrowski was on the other side of Pulawa, he was surprized by the Captain Archipassow, with the party he commanded : he was very ill-treated, and made prisoner with three officers and forty men. He had scarce surrendered himself when a chasseur, who was not observed, wounded him in the breast by a musket shot. He was a very gallant man, and universally regretted ; for he died in a few days, notwithstanding every means were

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employed

employed by General Suworow to promote his cure at Pulawa. As a mark of his esteem for the brave colonel, he restored to their liberty the three officers who were made prisoners with him.

Towards the latter end of January, 1772, a commissary belonging to the Russian troops entreated a secret audience of the general; when he discovered to him, that the French Field-Marshal Vioménil, who succeeded Brigadier Dumourier, had proposed a plan to take the castle and city of Cracow by surprise, which had been approved and adopted by the general of the confederates at Biala. To prove the truth of what he had advanced, he produced a letter from his brother, who was attached to the confederation; and he employed every argument in his power to dissuade the general from an expedition he had commenced against Lithuania, to oppose the invasion of the confederates, which he represented as nothing more than

than a diversion to draw his attention from Cracow. The general, however, gave not the least credit to the commissary's information or opinion; and he acted wrong; for he actually lost several days, which were employed in a fruitless march to Lithuania.

He was no sooner returned to Lublin, than he instantly collected two squadrons of dragoons with some Cossacs, and two companies of infantry with field-pieces, and began his march for Cracow. Near Koelitz, in the palatinate of Sandomer, he met General Count Braniski, with four regiments of hussars, and Lieutenant-General Grabowski, who served under him, with the Lithuanian regiment of dragoon guards. He immediately formed a junction; and, taking with him the garrison of Koelitz, which consisted of one squadron, two companies, and fifty Cossacs, they proceeded directly to Cracow.

Lieutenant-

Lieutenant-General Bibikow, who had, some months since, been appointed to succeed General Weirnarn, at Warsaw, had established at Cracow a large part of the regiment of Susdal, under the command of Colonel Stakelberg. This officer, who made, at Colberg, such a brave defence, had not of late manifested the same resolution. At the entreaty of a lady of quality he withdrew a sentinel, who was posted before the common sewer of the castle, because the challenges, &c. which were repeated during the night, near the lady's house, disturbed her slumbers. He contented himself with keeping up a piquet of thirty men and an officer in the castle, where the artillery and regimental carriages were deposited.—The rest of the guard was composed of workmen without arms, and amounted to about a hundred men.

The confederates were informed of the defenceless state of the castle and its feeble

garrison: they also knew that the sentinel had been withdrawn. Accordingly, in the night of the second of February, they made their approaches to it, in profound silence, with two battalions well armed, who were followed, at a certain distance, by five hundred cavalry. The infantry wore their white shirts over their uniforms, that they might not be observed amidst the snow; and, creeping upon their hands and knees, they penetrated the sewer, and by that passage entered the castle, with Captain Vioménil, nephew of the general of that name, at their head. The small piquet made all the resistance in their power; but the men who composed it were either cut down or taken prisoners. The cavalry soon followed and entered the castle by a gate whose port-cullis the infantry had drawn up.—Colonel Stakelberg got together, in great haste, a body of troops, and attacked the castle, but was repulsed with some loss, and the confederates remained masters of it.

In

In the course of the following night, Suworow arrived before Cracow, and immediately entered it. At break of day, a heavy column of the confederates sallied forth from the castle into the principal street of the town ; it supported itself with great courage amidst a continual fire of small arms ; but, after losing a great number of men, was driven back. Fifty dragoons, led on by an officer with great ardour, made an attack upon the grand guard, who received them with bayonets fixed ; but the greater number of them were killed, and after a contest of two hours, they were repulsed with the loss of a hundred men.

The same day Suworow made the circuit of Cracow on horseback, accompanied by two Polish generals. The Polish troops, commanded by Branizki, preserved their position on the other side of the Vistula, and were in possession of a bridge of communication, which was well protected by a body of infantry.

The castle of Cracow is situated on an eminence, but has neither ramparts or fortifications, and is without any defence but a thick and very high wall, with a ditch beneath. It is supported by the walls of the town which it commands. Troops were stationed in the upper stories and garrets of several houses in the front of the castle, and cannon were placed in such a manner as to be discharged from the windows. In the vacant parts of the town, entrenchments were thrown up, and parapets and redoubts were erected. General Suworow then sent for the ancient Commandant Ocbischelwiz, as a very experienced person, with the chasseurs which he had clothed at his own expence, and confided to his care the principal quarter of the city. The remaining part of it was entrusted to the vigilance of three field-officers.

Thus the castle was completely blockaded, The Russians, without reckoning their horse,

had about eight hundred infantry; and the troops of the confederates in the castle consisted of four hundred infantry, and five hundred cavalry.

On the third day, the commandant of the castle dispatched a French officer to the Russian general, who was charged with the following propositions;

I. He offered to give up a hundred prisoners, who were chiefly workmen of different kinds, and who inhabited the castle before the blockade; but this proposal was not accepted.

II. He demanded that permission might be given to the canons who officiated in the church, which was the burying-place of the Kings of Poland, to retire into the city, with their attendants, amounting, in all, to eighty persons. This request was also refused, in order to increase the distress of the garrison

garrison by so many useless mouths. But, notwithstanding this refusal, the ecclesiastics quitted the castle, at two different times. Those who made the first escape were only fired upon with powder, but the second party were more seriously treated, and some of them were wounded. No farther attempts, therefore, were made of a similar nature.

III. The officer also demanded certain medicines ; which were immediately granted.

The castle was furnished with a plentiful magazine of provisions. There was a sufficiency of hay and corn, as well as of wine, brandy, salt, oil, and roots. It possessed also a spring of excellent water ; but there was a dearth of meat.

The besiegers themselves were, in some degree, blockaded in the town, by the numerous bodies of confederates who occupied the
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the country, and against whom parties were continually employed. The general, therefore, had the precaution to examine into the state of their provisions and forage; and he found that they had an adequate supply of both.

Soon after the sally, which has been already mentioned, the besieged attempted a second, with four or five hundred men, who were conducted by a French officer; but were repulsed with the loss of fifty of their people.

Bakalowitz, the king's engineer, a man of consummate experience, began to form a mine, at a hundred paces from the castle, in very stony ground. Count Branizki provided him, for the purpose of opening the first gallery, fifty excellent labourers, from the salt-pits of Willitscha; and, in a short time, a second was begun, to the left of the former.

General

General Suworow, by the advice of Count Branizki, had posted the best company of the regiment of Sufdal in a building, in the immediate vicinity of the castle. At noon the general had retired to take a short repose, when he was soon disturbed by a great and tumultuous noise; he, therefore, rose in an instant, mounted his horse, and hastened to discover the cause. It was this company, whose captain having been seized with a panic, were flying in great disorder, and were pursued by the enemy with great slaughter. The general exerted himself to the utmost to stop the run-a-ways, and, having rallied them, forced them back with bayonet fixed, upon the confederates, who soon retired. The Russians, on this unfortunate occasion, lost thirty men.

In case it should have been found necessary to raise the siege; all the captains were made responsible for the fidelity and safety of the inhabitants. The suburbs were
subject

subject to a similar regulation; and that part of the town which was inhabited by the Jews received orders to arm, and mount guard. Redoubts were also raised upon the high-roads.

General Branizki recommended an assault, and his project was adopted. On the third of March, at two hours after midnight, the artillery, which were levelled from some very solid edifices, near the castle, began a discharge of small shot, accompanied by a brisk fire of musquetry, which the confederates returned with equal spirit. The columns advanced, and various attempts were made, but without effect. In short, the assault failed, and, at break of day, the signal was given for a retreat. The Russians lost, in this unsuccessful business, a lieutenant-colonel, several officers, and forty soldiers; and the wounded were not less than a hundred. The loss sustained by the confederates, according to the information of deserters, was
equally

equally great : and many of their officers were severely wounded.

In the afternoon of the same day, the commandant of the castle requested General Branizki to receive, into the town, a captain of dragoons, who was dangerously wounded, and whose father was a person in high estimation with the King of France. This permission was granted, and the officer received with every mark of tenderness and attention. He was a young man of about eighteen years of age, with a wound that threatened the most fatal consequences; but he was treated with so much care and skill, that he was cured by the end of the siege; when he returned to France, and to his father.

The castle of Tyniz, about a mile from Cracow, of which the confederates had possessed themselves, was surrounded with redoubts, where they had a great part of their people.

people. The Count Branizki was ordered to march against them with his hulans, and a party of Russian cavalry, which he did with considerable effect.

The Russian troops began to want both powder and ball, and the lieutenant of artillery, Haaks, had constructed a powder-mill in the suburb; but this resource was not sufficient for the requisite supplies. Lieutenant-Colonel Nagel was accordingly sent to Kosel, with a small party, in order to purchase ammunition; and though the confederate parties were scattered through the country, he avoided them with great address, and brought back a considerable quantity of the necessary stores.

In the course of the month of March, Lieutenant-colonel Michelson, who commanded a detachment behind Tyniz, was surprized by a party from the garrison of that place. But his resolution was equal to his danger,
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he completely repulsed the enemy, who were superior to him in number, and brought a hundred prisoners with him to Cracow.

Towards the close of the same month, the general detached Michelson, with a strong body of troops, to Oswrezin, where the archives of the confederates were deposited. During the night, he contrived to get into the midst of the garrison, killed a considerable part of it, and dispersed the rest. But he did not content himself with getting possession of the archives, he pursued his advantages as far as Biala, upon the frontiers of Silesia; and having driven from that place the pretended general confederation, who repassed the frontiers, with great precipitation, he happily returned in safety to Cracow.

Some time afterwards, a considerable number of hussars, and confederate cavalry, appeared behind Tyniz, and on the near side
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of the Vistula. They were the remains of the black Lithuanian troops, which had been collected by Kosakowski ; and had made great speed, in order to raise the siege of the castle of Cracow. The Count Branizki sent against them a large party of his hulans ; Lieutenant-Colonel Lang was also posted at Schwerzanzy, between Tynez and Cracow, but, with no more than two squadrons, of which his whole force consisted, he was not in a condition to resist the confederates, with a body of, at least, a thousand men. The hulans, also, could do nothing, but play off a few manœuvres, of little or no effect. General Suworow, therefore, determined to march against these confederate troops in person. He took with him two squadrons, and some Cossacs, and ordered an equal number to follow him. He found the hulans and Lang's squadrons manœuvring a retreat. That officer had been forced to give way, and the black troops were pressing upon him with redoubled steps. The general observed, that the ob-

ject of the enemy was not to fight, but to get to Cracow ; and he resolved to prevent them. He accordingly ordered his cavalry and Cossacs to charge, Lang's squadrons and the hulans followed, and they had broken through the enemy, before the other troops were arrived. Lieutenant-Colonel Lang received orders to cut off the retreat of the confederates ; and he at length pressed them so close, that a great part of them were driven into the Vistula, and perished.

In this engagement Suworow had a very narrow escape. In the heat of the action, a confederate officer rushed upon him, and, having discharged both his pistols, made a blow at him with his sabre, which the general parried with his own. At this moment a cuirassier arrived, and struck the officer from his horse.

Thus the remainder of the Lithuanian confederates were dispersed. A hundred men
were

were left on the field of battle, three hundred were drowned in the river, fifty were made prisoners, and the rest disappeared, and were never heard of more.

In the beginning of April, the general received a twelve pounder from Warsaw, and as he had already two licornes, which carried eight pounders, four three pounders, and eight mortars, Lieutenant Haaks erected a battery on one of the strongest edifices in the front of the principal gate of the castle, without being observed by the garrison. He also added a mortar, capable of throwing a ball of a hundred weight; and, as soon as the battery was completed, it began to play upon the castle. The apartments were frequently seen in flames, as well as a magazine of hay, but they were as often extinguished. A bomb fell on the house of the commandant which made great havock; the wall on the side of the gate began to totter, and a breach was formed in the church, which was sup-
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ported

ported by the wall of the castle. The two galleries of the mine were completed, and it only remained to charge them.

The garrison of the castle were not only without flints, which had been consumed in their various sallies, but were reduced to the diet of horse flesh. This circumstance was known from certain dispatches, delivered up by an officer who had been taken prisoner, as he was carrying an account of the wretched state of the garrison, both as to provisions and health, from the commandant to General Viomenil, and requesting immediate relief.

The count availed himself of this intelligence, and, on the next day, sent Captain Weimarn, of the cavalry, to the castle, with a definitive declaration to the French officers, that every preparation was made for an assault, and if the garrison did not surrender, it would be put to the sword.

On the eighth of April, when the night was already far advanced, the French Brigadier Galibert presented himself before the entrenchments, and demanded safe conduct to the general: he was accordingly introduced with the usual ceremonies. Suworow gave him a very civil reception; and, after a short conversation, dictated to him the principal articles of the capitulation, which contained more advantageous conditions than the French brigadier had ventured to propose;—who was now reconducted, under a proper escort and every becoming attention, to the castle.

On the following day, the same officer renewed his visit at ten in the morning; and, after he had been served with breakfast, began to start difficulties respecting certain articles of the capitulation. This conduct determined the general to grant less than he had originally proposed, and to assure him, at his departure, that, if he returned without

having accepted the articles as they actually were, other and less favourable conditions would be proposed and supported. That very night, however, Brigadier Galibert returned once more, to accept, in the name of the garrison, all the conditions that had been offered to it.

The principal articles of capitulation were as follows :

I. The garrison shall deliver up their arms within the walls of the castle, and leave it in distinct platoons of a hundred men.

II. The lives and property of the garrison shall be protected.

III. The French troops, who form a part of the garrison, shall surrender themselves only as prisoners, but not as prisoners of war, because, there being no war between
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the powers of Russia and France, no exchange of prisoners can take place:

IV. The French troops, which are under the command of General Viomenil, shall be transferred to Lemberg, those of Dumourier to Biala, in Lithuania, and those of the Polish confederates to Smolensko.

V. All the regalia of the crown, and other effects in the castle, shall be restored to the commissaries of his Polish majesty.

On the following morning, the king's commissaries entered the castle, and found the jewels of the crown properly disposed in a cabinet, which had been enclosed in a wall, during the siege; and the other effects were in good condition.

It was now holy week, and the garrison marched out of the castle on the 15th of April, which was Easter-day, according to the terms

of the capitulation. The two brigadiers, Galibert and Choisi, as well as some other French officers, had the cross of St. Louis; and when Monsieur de Choisi presented his sword to Suworow, he put it aside. "I cannot," said he, "receive the sword of a gallant man, in the service of a king, who is the ally of my own Sovereign," and they immediately embraced.

The principal officers were not only treated with kindness, but entertained with magnificence previous to their departure. The Count Branizki invited them to dine with him, and gave them a sumptuous entertainment. Major Sansow Zasseki was charged also to do the honours of a dinner to the other officers, in a palace prepared for their reception. The general quitted table to make the necessary dispositions for the conveyance of all his prisoners to Lublin. A coach was procured for the two brigadiers, and other carriages were appointed for the rest of the officers.

officers. The cavalry received such of their horses as remained, and farmers waggons were collected for the other prisoners. The general ordered the major on duty to take care that every possible attention should be paid to them on their route. They were escorted by four companies of infantry, and two field-pieces, two squadrons of cavalry, and fifty Cossacs, commanded by Colonel Idagien; and the march was covered by a reserved detachment of almost equal force, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Michelson, to whom he gave the principal charge.

The prisoners were about a thousand, a third of whom were cavalry, with near fifty officers of rank. The loss of the Russians, during the siege, was two hundred killed, and about four hundred wounded.

Their progress was not interrupted: not one of the different parties of confederates, who infested the country, had the courage
to

to attack the escort; so that the whole arrived safe at Lublin; from whence the prisoners were sent off to their respective destinations.

Suworow was impatient to continue his operations; and without waiting for the return of the escort to Cracow, though he had but a small body of troops, detached the principal part of them against Zator, a small fortified town, about six miles from Cracow, on the banks of the Vistula. They surprized the garrison, and, without effusion of blood, brought away the commandant, with his officers, and two hundred prisoners. But, before they quitted the place, they blew up the works, which were defended only by twelve useless pieces of artillery.

A small corps of observation served to overawe the towns of Tyniz and Landskron till the detachment, which has been already mentioned, returned from Lublin; but it was

was no sooner arrived, and he had received a supply of cannon and ammunition from Rosel, than the general proceeded to invest Tyniz in form. In the mean time, the troops of the emperor arrived in this canton, and made themselves masters of Landskron, Suworow therefore abandoned Tyniz to them, and, having withdrawn his artillery, returned to Cracow.

Several of the confederate chiefs at length submitted, and abandoned their party. Colonel Moschinski, of Sandomir, presented himself on parole to Suworow, gave in his resignation, and dismissed all those who were under his command. Marshal Masowizki did the same, by deputation. The famous Major-General Schutz came in person with the remains of his fine troops of Radzewill, forming at this time a body of a thousand men, the principal part of whose officers were foreigners, and had served in different armies. He capitulated on very advantageous

ous

ous conditions, and the general treated him as his friend. His people were all disbanded, with a satisfactory gratification.

The Prussians had also marched against the confederates, and the three allied powers completed their design of possessing themselves of certain provinces of Poland.

Tranquillity being restored in Poland, the Russian troops were withdrawn from that kingdom, except a few regiments, who were ordered to join the army, commanded by Count Romanzow, against the Turks. A short time before, the Lieutenant-Generals Romanus and Elmpt arrived in Poland, with a body of troops in a complete state of equipment. The first passed by Lithuania, on the side of Lublin, and the latter remained there.

Thus ended the campaigns against the confederates in Poland, where General Suwo-
row

row served during four years without interruption. Independent of the numerous inferior actions and multiplied skirmishes, in which his courage was always displayed, and his military capacity never failed to appear; he was covered with glory by the victory of Stalowiz, and the capture of Cracow; which gave the promise of that brilliant career that he has since run,

In the month of September, he was attached to the corps of General Elmpt, which, on account of the actual situation of Sweden, was ordered to Finland, by the way of Petersburg. In the course of the autumn it took its departure, and by ordinary marches, arrived in the winter at Petersburg. The regiments destined for Finland traversed the city in great parade; but General Suworow remained with his division in the capital,

In February, 1773, he was employed on the duty of inspecting the frontiers of Finland,

land. He took his route by Wybourg, Kexholm, and Neuschott, towards the frontiers of Sweden, where he was determined to remain unknown. He found all classes of people, the clergy, the nobility, the burghers, and the whole militia of the country prejudiced against the new constitution. He reduced all he heard and saw to writing; and, on his return to Petersburg, made the necessary communications.

Towards the spring, the congress of the Turks, at Soczan, separated; the truce was at an end,—and it appeared as if war would be rekindled. General Suworow now received orders to join the army in Moldavia, where he served under the Field-Marshal Romanzow.

C H A P. III.

THE FIRST WAR AGAINST THE TURKS, UNDER FIELD-MARSHAL ROMANZOW, IN THE YEARS 1773 AND 1774.

GENERAL Suworow, in the beginning of May, 1773, arrived at Jassy, and presented himself to Field-Marshal Romanzow, who had then fixed his head-quarters at that place, the capital of Moldavia. On the third day after his arrival, he proceeded to join the corps of Walachia, to which he was attached : it was commanded by Lieutenant-General Count Soltikow, and was encamped before Tchurschebo. He reconnoitered the surrounding country, and went the following day to the convent of Nigojefchti, where he received his detachment. It consisted of regiments of carabineers and Astracan infantry,

fantry, with four field-pieces, and about a hundred Cossacs of the Don, under their brave officer Seminkin. There were also seventeen boats provided for the service of the detachment.

Nigojeshti is situate at the distance of a mile and a half from the Danube: Turtukay is upon the right bank of that river; and to the right of the convent runs the Arbisch, which flows into it. Near its mouth some heavy pieces of artillery had been levelled on the opposite bank, which not only defended the river, but commanded a part of the country on the other side of it, and had often compelled the Russians to retire.

At this place, the Danube is upwards of a mile in breadth, with very steep banks; nevertheless, General Suworow determined to arm all his boats, each of which was capable of containing from twenty to thirty
men,

men, and attempt a descent on the right side of the river. With this view he ordered soldiers to be employed as rowers, and made them practise under the direction of Lieutenant Palkin. It was also necessary that the boats should be transported upon carts drawn by oxen, and without being perceived, to the distance of a mile down the river; where there was a commodious place for embarking the troops.

Every thing being in readiness, the detachment, consisting of four companies of infantry, a regiment of carabineers, and a hundred Cossacs, began its march in the darkest part of the night. The armed boats descended the Artisch, and the carriages proceeded along the side of the bank in a hollow way, which was covered by thickets.

When the whole party and their equipage was arrived at the place appointed, the general determined to remain there till the fol-

lowing night. He accordingly wrapped his cloak round him, and lay down, at a small distance from the river, to get a little repose; but, just before day-break, he unexpectedly heard the cry of Allah ! very near the spot where he was. He instantly arose, and perceiving a body of Spahis, or Turkish horse, coming towards him with uplifted sabres, he had only time to leap on his horse, and to gallop off with all possible speed.

Seminiski instantly led on the Cossacs to attack them; but with all his bravery he could not withstand their onset, and was obliged to retire. They then menaced the regiment of carabineers, when the general ordered two squadrons to fall on them sword in hand; and they, in their turn, were now compelled to give way, and were pursued to the banks of the Danube; when, throwing themselves into their large boats, they hastily escaped. The Russian infantry was at some distance, and had no share in this engagement.

gement. The Turks, who had upwards of four hundred men, left four score on the field, and a few prisoners, among whom was their Bim-bacha, an aged and venerable man.

This was the first acquaintance that Suworow made with the Turks, to whom the very name of this warrior is since become so formidable. The advantage, which he obtained in this action, seems to have been a prelude to the numerous victories he has since obtained over the Ottoman arms.

The Russians having been discovered, the general, extended his observations on the environs, and changed his plan. He ordered the carriages to return, and, the following night, embarked his infantry on the Artisch, in order to proceed to its conflux with the Danube. A hundred light carabineers, with their colonel, and the Cossacs, swam down the stream after them; a service of no small risk;

risk; but was attended, on this occasion, with the loss only of a few men and horses.

A descent was now made on the right bank of the Danube, under a very severe fire of Turkish artillery; and Major Rehbeck was immediately ordered to get possession of a redoubt on the right, which covered the Turkish flotilla. Lieutenant Maurinow, who had formed his company in a hollow square, received orders to make himself master of a similar redoubt on the left. The centre, commanded by Colonel Batturin, came at once upon an empty redoubt, and, advancing onwards, enclosed an entrenchment: a heavy piece of artillery, which had been fixed in the road, on being discharged burst in several pieces, wounded a considerable number, and, among the rest, the general himself received a very severe blow on his right leg. Nor was this all, for a janissary aimed a stroke at his breast, which he fortunately parried, and was not repeated,

ed, as the Turks were immediately driven from the entrenchment, and left it to the possession of the Russians.

It was now an object of importance to gain a height, which was at a small distance, commanded all the country, and had not been fortified by the Turks. The Russians hurried thither, and, when they were arrived, the general commanded a halt.

The cavalry and the Cossacs pursued the Turks, as well as the dusk of the evening would allow them. Rehbeck had the good fortune to seize the flotilla; and Maurinow, after having taken a redoubt, made himself master of Turtukay.

As it was not permitted to any one to pillage on his own account, Suworow had made a regulation, that, where pillage was allowed by the laws of war, four persons should be appointed to that service from

every battalion, and that the whole should partake of the booty.

He remained about an hour upon the hill, where he ordered the watchword, and other military signals, to be continually repeated. The day, at length, began to appear.

Lieutenant-General, afterwards Prince Potemkin, who was encamped in front of Silistria, had promised to send, by his boats, two thousand Cossacs of Saporóchi; but they did not arrive till several hours after the combat was concluded.

On a signal given, the Russian troops returned to the banks of the river; and having embarked, took several Turkish boats, with six brass cannon, and eight heavy pieces of artillery. The latter were sunk in the Danube, as there was not time to bring them away. Turtukay was in flames; and, about

ten o'clock, a large magazine of powder blew up, whose explosion was heard throughout the surrounding country.

Immediately after the victory, General Suworow dispatched an account of it to Field-Marshal Romanzow. The style of the relation is truly laconic and original, and displays, in some degree, the character of the writer. The following is a feeble translation of it,

“ Honour and glory to God ! Glory to
“ you, Ramanzow ! We are in possession of
“ Turtukay, and I am in it.

“ SUWOROW.”

As a recompense for this victory, the empress transmitted to him the cross of the order of Saint George, of the second class, with the following letter :

To our Major-General de Suworow.

“ The bravery and heroism of which you
 “ have given such a brilliant example, in
 “ the conduct of the detachment entrusted
 “ to your command, at the siege and assault
 “ of Turtukay, render you worthy of some
 “ honourable distinction, and of our Imperial
 “ favour: In conformity, therefore, to the
 “ statutes of the military order of Saint
 “ George, which we have instituted, we
 “ graciously name you to be a knight of
 “ that order, of the second class, command-
 “ ing you to receive the decorations which
 “ accompany this letter, and to suspend its
 “ cross from your neck, according to our
 “ institution. We are pleased to encourage
 “ the belief that this Imperial favour will
 “ animate you more and more to merit the
 “ good-will with which we are your affec-
 “ tionate,

“ CATHERINE.”

Sarskeéselo, June 30, 1773.

When

When the troops had reached the left bank of the Danube, they enjoyed a short repose in a small valley; and, in the course of the night, returned to their camp, near the convent of Nigojeschti. This happened on the tenth of May.

This victory cost the Russians sixty men killed, and one hundred and fifty wounded. The Turks lost four large, and six small, standards. Their troops, which were chiefly infantry, amounted to four thousand men. Their fine flotilla, which fell into the power of the Russians, consisted of fifty boats and trading vessels. The soldiers made a considerable booty in effects, as well as in gold and silver: and, when they afterwards attended divine service for public thanksgiving, they presented the priests with roubles and pieces of gold.

A new raised regiment of Cossacs, consisting of three hundred and fifty men, natives

tives of Poland, and commanded by Major Casperow, reinforced Suworow's detachment. —The general now employed himself in the continual exercise of his troops, and in fortifying the convent of Nigojeschti.

In the month of June, he was attacked by a violent fever, which obliged him to go to Bucharest for the recovery of his health.

The grand army, commanded by Field-Marshal Romanzow, passed the Danube in the month of July, and encamped before Silistria.—At the same time, General Weismann passed the river near Ismail, beat the Turks three times in the course of his march, and effected a junction with the main army.

The Turks received a reinforcement before Turtukay, and fortified themselves in a more skilful manner than they had hitherto done. General Suworow, though he was
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by no means re-established in his health, set off to join his detachment, which, during his absence, had received no great addition to its numbers. The battalion of Nisow, consisting of two hundred men, with the regiment of Cossacs of the Don, commanded by Colonel Leonow, and two hundred Arnauts composed the whole of his late reinforcements.—He armed the regiment of carabineers with muskets from Bucharest, and had them instructed in the manual discipline of the infantry. Major Count Mellin had under his orders at Bucharest three hundred recruits, whom he was employed in forming to every duty and exertion of the soldier's life. Mellin came afterwards to Nigojeschti; the general followed him; and, in a short time, proceeded on a second expedition.

He ordered his flotilla to proceed empty down the Artisch, and to come to off the left bank of the Danube. He left two hundred men in garrison at Nigojeschti to keep clear
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the right bank of that river : at the same time, he erected a battery of six cannon on the left bank, and entrusted its defence to Colonel Norow, with two companies, two squadrons, and a new raised regiment of Cossacs, that the Turks might not surprize or turn it. The detachment, destined for embarkation, consisted of from sixteen to eighteen hundred men.

They began their march in the early part of the night ; it was at first very cloudy and obscure, but the moon appeared as they approached the bank, which rendered it necessary for them to retire to a hiding-place, that they might not be perceived from the opposite side of the river.—The moon, however, soon retired, when the march was renewed, and at midnight they arrived at the place where they were to embark.

The flotilla was distributed into three divisions, under the Colonels Baturin, Mellin,
and

and Mescherki, who commanded the infantry ; while the squadrons of horse and the Cossacs of the Don swam across the river.

Though it was very tempestuous, Baturin effected a descent on the right bank, and drove the Turks from an entrenchment of which he had received information. He immediately gave the signal of his success, and halted there, instead of pushing forwards to attack another which was of still greater importance.—The general was still on the left bank to superintend the embarkation.—As he suspected that all was not right on the opposite side of the river, and that there was no time to lose in taking advantage of the night, he at once resolved to embark with the second division, which the force of the current carried a quarter of a mile too low.—Suworow was still in so languid a state that he could not walk without the support of two men ; and his voice was so weak that

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it was absolutely necessary for an officer to be always by his side to repeat his commands.

He now returned up the river under its right bank, and disembarked his people near the town of Turtukay, which he had lately burned, though there still remained a considerable number of houses; and he was obliged to pass through a part of its ruins.— At the dawn of day several bodies of armed Turks appeared, whom he did not think proper to attack, as his principal object was to effect a junction with the battalion of Nissow, under Colonel Baturin, which he happily effected; and, without reproaching that officer for his late error, he immediately dispatched Major Rehbock, with three companies, to attack the important entrenchment, which Baturin had neglected, and the troops followed. The Arnautes had been already detached with orders to get unperceived behind the Turkish camp, and by their

their outcries and manœuvres to fill it with alarm and confusion.

Rehbock took possession of the entrenchment, and the whole body of infantry soon established themselves in it. It was situate on the very height which has been mentioned in the detail of the former battle. At day light it was found to be on an eminence that commanded the whole country. The entrenchment, indeed, was not completed: the parapet was not sufficiently elevated, the ditch had not the necessary depth, and the entrance was not fortified.—The area, however, was so extensive, that the whole body of infantry, with the foot carabineers, could display themselves at large in it.—No Turks were visible in the other entrenchments.

A party of carabineers having set out on a pillaging party without orders, the Turks fell upon, and pursued them; and, before
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they could recover themselves, the whole Turkish army, consisting of seven thousand men, quitted their camp, and proceeded to attack the entrenchment.—It was about six in the morning.

The Turkish infantry posted themselves behind the hedges, where they did considerable mischief : and the cavalry rushed on towards the entrenchment. As the parapet was low, the Russians were under the necessity of firing on their knees.—They had indeed taken some cannon, but as there were no artillery men with them, they were, for the present, altogether useless.

In the mean time, the Russian rear guard advanced, with one field-piece, which the current of the river had driven to a considerable distance from the place where they had been ordered to disembark. This single cannon proved to be of great service, as the Turks were without artillery : but the

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principal

principal mischief was produced by the battery on the left bank of the Danube. Though the Turks had been continually repulsed in their attacks on the entrenchments, they returned as often with renewed impetuosity.

The action had now lasted two hours, when the Turkish horse reassembled in great numbers, and attacked with the fiercest ardor the unfortified entrance of the parapet. The Bacha, who commanded them, appeared in rich array at their head; but, as they approached, he received a shot in his breast, which a serjeant of chasseurs had discharged at him, and, with a loud scream, fell from his horse. His people instantly surrounded him, when a body of fifty Cossacs broke through the midst of them, and though the Turks exerted the most consummate bravery to save their chief, a Cossac completed his fate by the stroke of a lance.

Thus died Sary 'Mechmed Bacha, the second in command of the famous Ali Bey, of Egypt, whom he afterwards betrayed; a man alike distinguished for his courage, his strength, and his beauty. His people, though they were confounded, did not disperse, but continued the combat during an hour; and, though compelled to retreat, disdained to fly.

At length, in order at once to terminate the contest, General Suworow, commanded Captain Bratzow to fall from the entrenchment, with a column of two companies of grenadiers, six men in front, and to fall upon the Turks; but that brave officer met with a powerful resistance, sustained considerable loss, and was himself mortally wounded: notwithstanding such a discouraging circumstance, the column pushed onwards and the Turks were repulsed. At this moment, the whole force of the entrenchment came forwards, when the Turkish army was completely

pletely routed, and the Russian cavalry were ordered to pursue them.

Suworow now mounted his horse, and proceeding to an elevated spot, took a view of the camp from whence the Turks had issued to attack the entrenchment, and where it appeared that they had left but a few scattered troops to protect it. He therefore ordered a body of infantry to hasten thither with all speed, and possess themselves of the artillery, while he followed with the rest of his forces. He formed them into three sides of a square, and covered the wings with his cavalry, in order to receive the Turks with advantage, if they should be induced to attack him; but they continued their retreat and left their camp to the conquerors. On this occasion the Russian soldiers divided a very rich booty.

Four-and-twenty large vessels, called schaicks, were also seized by the Russians;

they were secured in shallow water, and the access to them defended by palisades. It employed several hours, and required no common exertions to disengage them. As the general considered this post of little consequence, he gave orders for an immediate return. The Russian infantry accordingly embarked on their flotilla; while the cavalry went on board the schuicks, with the artillery which had been captured, and the whole force proceeded to that part of the left bank of the river, where the battery, commanded by Colonel Norow, had been erected.—There they fixed their camp.

In this action, which took place on the 27th of July, the Turks lost a thousand men, and eighteen brass cannon, which had never been employed.

The remains of Sary Mechmed Bacha were interred on the right bank, with all the honours

nours due to his high rank and military qualities.

The news of this victory was carried by Major Rehbock to Field-Marshal Romanzow, who received it with the greater pleasure; as, on the same day, an ineffectual attempt had been made upon Silistria.

On the following day, the general embarked a large part of his force, and ascended the Danube. He left none of his troops behind, but the cavalry, and a detachment of infantry at the convent, which he had already fortified. The weather was very favourable when they embarked; but, towards the evening, a storm arose, which so completely dispersed the flotilla, that the boat, in which the general had taken his passage, with great difficulty, gained the right bank of the river. In the middle of the night the tempestuous weather subsided, and, in the morning, the flotilla was reunited, with very in-

considerable loss.—Here General Suworow had a conference with Count Soltikow, whose corps lay before Schursch, on the subject of an enterprize on Ruscheluck; but the project was deferred on account of the unsuccessful attempt on Silistria, the intelligence of which, had now reached them. The general, therefore, returned to his former post, and the flotilla entered into the Artisch.

In a short time after, there was a fresh distribution of military commands, and Suworow was attached to the army of the field-marshal.

Previous to his departure from Nigojeschti, an accident happened to the general, which threatened the most fatal consequences. The stair-case of the convent having become very slippery, on account of the rain, the general, who was not recovered from the hurt in his leg, fell with great violence on his back; which, besides the exterior bruises, was attended

tended with internal pains, and a great difficulty of respiration. He was, therefore, conveyed to Bucharest, where, by the aid and care of a very skilful physician, in the course of fifteen days, his health was completely re-established. As soon as he was recovered, which was in the middle of August, he repaired to his new post.

The detachment, of which he was appointed to take the command, was encamped before Chirschowa; while Romanzow maintained his position near the river Jalowiza. Suworow immediately crossed the Danube to Chirschowa. The town is situated on the right bank of the river, which, at this place, is half a mile broad, and is divided by several islands.

He found the detachment very much exposed to be attacked by the Turks, as well from its own weakness, as the nature of its position. He determined therefore to hazard

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nothing, and to secure his troops by strong entrenchments. He began by reconnoitring the environs, and marking the places where fortifications should be erected. He was, however, so unfortunate, as to lose, at this time, the only engineer in his service. That officer, in passing a river, mistook the ford and was drowned.

The entrenchments proceeded with all possible expedition, and they were no sooner completed, than intelligence was received that the Turks at Karassia, about ten miles from Chirschowa, were in motion, and would soon begin to march.

The correctness of this information was proved by their approaching, in the night of the 3d of September, within half a mile of the town ; the moon being at the full. The principal Russian officers were of opinion that the Turks would immediately make their attack. The general, however, entertained different

different sentiments, and ordered his troops to repose. As for himself, he waited with impatience for the break of day; and, some time before it was light, he mounted his horse, and, accompanied by two Cossacs, proceeded to observe the march and motions of the enemy.

His corps consisted of four regiments of infantry, two of which were very incomplete, not containing more than two hundred men, with their cannon, three squadrons of hussars, and a hundred Cossacs. The two full regiments were encamped in a low and covered island, with which a communication was formed by a bridge of boats; and the two weak regiments were distributed in the castle and the intrenchments.

The Turkish army of eleven thousand men advanced. At eight, they approached the farthest redoubt, which was commanded by the cannon of the castle. When they drew

drew nigh, the general made a feint of alarm, and ordered the tents to be struck and carried into the redoubt. Around the entrenchments, deep hollows had been made, which were planted with small lances. He had also ordered that the enemy should be suffered to approach close to the works without a single discharge of artillery.

The Turks appeared to entertain the design of attacking the redoubt and the castle at the same moment; but Colonel Dumaschow, from a brave impatience, and before they were within reach, discharged some balls at them, which counteracted the general's first plan, and for some time delayed their approach. They, however, advanced in skirmishing, and though there were some works that interrupted them, they continued to gain ground; but their march was not marked with its usual rapidity. Suworow now ordered his skirmishers to retreat by little and little, and to take flight, as if seized with

with a sudden panic. By this stratagem, he hoped to tempt the enemy close to the entrenchments.

It did not, however, produce the desired effect; for as soon as they were freed from the flying parties of the Russians, the Turkish army immediately extended itself, and presented a very uncommon spectacle. Accustomed as they were to fight in small scattered bands, the Turks now ranged themselves in European order of battle, and formed themselves in regular lines. The janissaries, with the artillery, occupying the centre, and the spahis, or cavalry, taking post on the wings. They then advanced in tolerable order against the farthest entrenchment, whose ditch was not of any considerable depth, from the stony nature of the ground; but it was guarded by a double range of chevaux-de-frise, with pallisadoes behind, on a part of that eminence which covered

covered the island where the two strong regiments were posted.

The Turks commenced the attack with a discharge of artillery; and immediately advanced against the entrenchments with such precipitation, that the general himself had no other means of escaping, but by leaping over the chevaux-de-frise that defended the entrance. Though they were received by a very brisk and well sustained discharge of musquetry, they continued to advance, and passed, in great numbers, over the chevaux-de-frise to the pallisades, where they fixed their standards; but they tried in vain to proceed. Colonel Machipelow, with the regiment of Staroskolin, which was posted in the island, fell upon their right wing with bayonets fixed. Prince Gagarin passed the bridge, and, having turned the height, attacked their wing, and the Baron Rosen, with the cavalry, charged the centre; they were, therefore, soon thrown into dis-

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order; and as they had not been accustomed to fight in rank and file, their confusion was proportionally encreased. They abandoned their artillery, and were pursued throughout the night to the distance of several miles. The janissaries, incommoded by their heavy garments, threw them aside in order to facilitate their flight, and the spahis dispersed themselves over the country.

General Suworow, at length, commanded the pursuit to cease, and gave his troops a few hours of rest. In the morning, they returned to Chirscowa, and found their way strewn with the bodies of the enemy.

The Turks lost, in this action, upwards of a thousand men, among whom were two pachas, and a great number of Moors. The Russians took a hundred prisoners, with some officers, and nine standards. The artillery, which fell into their hands, consisted of eight cannons, and a mortar. On
their

their side the number killed were very considerable, but their wounded amounted to four hundred.

At the end of October, Lieutenant-General Prince Dolgorucki and the Baron Ungarn were ordered to march to Schumma; but they separated on their route, and the latter proceeded against Warna, where he unfortunately failed; while the violent rains prevented Prince Dolgorucki from going to Schumma. Suworow was to have accompanied him in this expedition, but he was not, altogether, recovered from his fever; he, therefore, returned into Russia, to attend to his health, where he passed the winter.

In 1774, towards the end of April, he returned to the army of the Danube. He was now advanced to the rank of lieutenant-general, and appointed to command the second division, which was before Slobocia, over against Silistria, as well as the corps
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de reserve, at Chirscowa. This division consisted of sixteen battalions, twenty squadrons, and two regiments of Cossacs. The corps de reserve was composed of fifteen battalions, thirteen squadrons, a regiment of Cossacs, and two thousand five hundred arnautes, with a large park of artillery.

Before Silistria, where Lieutenant-General Suworow had fixed his quarters, there was a large island, of the Danube, which was an object of continual contest. He, therefore, made it neutral, to prevent all useless attacks; and the patrols, of the different armies, frequently met there, without infringing the neutrality of the place.

It was intended that the greater part of the Russian army should pass the Danube; but the general, with a detachment from the main body, was entrenched in a wood, about a mile from Silistria; where his people had frequent skirmishes with the enemy.

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At the end of a week, he quitted his entrenchments, and made a march of five miles; in the course of which, he met, in a wood, Lieutenant-General Kamenski, with his corps, from Ismail, who had marched during the whole night, and had not found time either to encamp or eat; when, about noon, a party of light-horse, who had been sent upon discoveries, returned with the quarter-master-general of the Turks, whom they had made prisoner, with his escort. From him it was learned, that the Turkish army, of fifty thousand men, was in full march.

General Kamenski commanded the signal for remounting, and ordered his cavalry to attack those of the enemy, which had advanced into the wood; but they were repulsed. Suworow's infantry marched on, with the cavalry behind; and three squadrons of hussars, with the Cossacs before. He immediately fell upon the Turkish cavalry,

valry, who were pursuing the Russian horse; but had not sufficient force to continue the attack, and was obliged to retreat. Many pieces were discharged at him, and he was so closely pursued by a Spahi, that he was indebted for his preservation to the swiftness of his horse. He soon after fell in with two battalions of grenadiers, and a battalion of chasseurs, who had been attacked with such precipitation, that they had not time to form in a regular manner. They were eight thousand Albanian infantry, who had made the attack, in their usual manner, with shouts and outcry; and had already killed several chasseurs, who had advanced so far as to have their retreat cut off. The three battalions themselves were in a very perilous situation. They continued firing for a whole hour, and severely galled the Albanians, but not with sufficient effect to make them give way: at length, the Brigadier Machipelow arrived, with two battalions of Senski, two battalions of Susdal, and two

companies of grenadiers. The firing now discontinued; and, when the smoke was dispersed, it appeared that the advanced guard of the Turks had made a retreat.

Suworow having traversed the woods with Machipelow, and, observing that the Turks fled on all sides, he resolved to push his advantage. The way through the wood was very narrow, so that the troops were obliged to march in files; at the same time, the heat was so oppressive, that many of the soldiers fell down, and expired on the spot. The road was also covered with the carcases of Turks, and draft bullocks which they had killed. These animals had dragged some hundreds of armed waggons, which had been brought with a design to enclose the Russians in their entrenchments.

General Louis, at the head of three thousand cavalry of the Ismail corps, covered the march of the infantry, and frequently har-

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raised the Albanians in their flight, though he was continually repulsed by numerous bodies of Turkish horse : he was sometimes, indeed, obliged to retreat to the infantry, to be protected, in his turn, by their artillery. On quitting the wood, they were overtaken by a very heavy shower of rain, which, though attended with some inconvenience, served to refresh the troops, and to slacken the retreat of the Turks ; the weight of whose long robes increased, in proportion to the water they had imbibed : and, as they used small pockets, instead of cartridge-boxes, their powder was moistened, and rendered unfit for use.

The Russians had no sooner gained the open country, than they were cannonaded by three batteries, which the Turks had raised on a height ; and from whose fire the former sustained considerable loss. But when Lieutenant-General Suworow ordered his troops to attack the batteries, they were in-

spired by his command, and soon became masters of them.

The body of troops, which was collected to make head against the grand army of the Turks, amounted to twelve thousand men. Being ranged, in order of march, they advanced against the enemy, on a plain which rose with a gentle acclivity. The janissaries and Spahis instantly attacked the right wing of the Russians, who repulsed them with great loss. But, though the janissaries renewed the attack, with a fury approaching to madness, with a sabre in one hand, and a poniard in the other, all their efforts were vain:—at length, after a bloody contest, they fled in different parties, and were pursued, with added destruction, by the Russian cavalry.

Some detachments of infantry, in making a movement to the right, discovered, behind the high ground, the Turkish camp, which was placed

placed in a bottom, near the small town of Kofludgi, and at the distance of a little mile from the wood. This circumstance was no sooner known, than General Suworow resolved to attack it; but, from the necessary rapidity of the manœuvre, the greater part of the artillery was left behind, and the troops hastened to the service with no more than eight field-pieces. But, after a few minutes firing from the height, the Turks took to flight, and their camp was speedily evacuated.

It was one of the most beautiful camps the Turks had formed. The tents were new; and all decorated, after their fashion, with the pictured distinctions of their different companies, which they denominate *odas*; with lions, stags, horses, and elephants. Contrary to their usual custom, they had left the whole standing, without the least injury, and with all its valuable appendages; so that

the Russians possessed themselves of an immense booty.

On the other side of the camp, there was some high ground, which General Suworow was determined to occupy, as it commanded the surrounding country. He proceeded, therefore, with three squadrons of hussars, and ordered the rest of his troops to follow. The hussars had no sooner gained the height, than they were, very unexpectedly, cannonaded, by some very heavy artillery, from a wood which was before them. The general, therefore, ordered Major Perfintiew to take three companies of infantry, and possess himself of that position. He accordingly discomfited the Turks, took their cannon, and the troops maintained their post.

In this battle, which was fought on the 11th of June, the Turks lost three thousand men, some hundred prisoners, forty pieces
of

of artillery, and eighty standards, with their superb camp. They were commanded by the Aga of the janissaries, the Reis effendi, and several bachas.

Soon after this victory, Lieutenant-General Suworow was attacked by a very alarming return of his fever; and he became so weak, that he was not only unable to mount his horse, but it was with great difficulty that he could stand without assistance. He, therefore, quitted his division, and went to Bucharest, to re-establish his health. He had designed, on his recovery, to repair to General Count Toltikow, who commanded before Ruschuck: but, in the mean time, peace was concluded,

After he had been to take leave of Field-Marshal Romanzow, at Fokschani, he returned to Russia; but, on his arrival at Jassy, he received an order, from Petersburg, to proceed, with all possible haste,

to Moscow, to assist Prince Wolgoniski, commander-in-chief in Moscovy; where he was commissioned to appease the interior troubles of that part of the empire.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

THE PURSUIT OF PUGATSCHEW, WHO IS
MADE PRISONER.

LIEUTENANT-General Suworow arrived at Moscow in the month of August, 1774; but in the first conversation he had with Prince Wolgonski, he perceived that his presence was not necessary in that city; and accordingly set off on a tour through the interior parts of the empire.

In the course of it he paid a visit to the General-in-Chief Count Panin, who was employed to compose the disturbances that prevailed in that part of the kingdom. At this time, Panin had received instructions from Petersburg respecting Suworow; in consequence

sequence of which the latter was invested with full power, to act on all occasions as should seem best for the advantage of his sovereign; and special directions were dispatched to all commanders of troops, as well as governors of the adjoining provinces, to submit themselves, without reserve, to the orders of Lieutenant-General Suworow.

Her Imperial majesty also condescended to honour him with a letter, written by herself, to testify the satisfaction which she derived from his zeal and activity in her service.

On the very day, when he received these appointments, he quitted Count Panin, under an escort of fifty men; and took his route by Arfamas, Penza, and Saratow, where he obtained more positive information as to the service on which he was to be employed.

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A short time before, the rebel, or as Suworow used himself to call him, the robber Pugatschew, after having forcibly carried off some hundred men, and all the draft horses, had quitted this part of the country to proceed to Zarizyn. The general was therefore under the necessity of embarking his escort on the Wolga for that place, while he marched along the bank with the small number of horses which he had been able to procure.

In his route, from Penza, he fell in with several small corps which had been raised by private gentlemen. He also occasionally encountered bodies of troops who espoused the cause of Pugatschew; but they never attempted to attack him; and, as he had so few people with him, he did not venture to attack them. The rebel had often been beat and put to flight, but he as often reappeared with recruited power. His force at Saratow consisted of about eight thousand
men,

men, consisting in a great measure of ill-armed peasants. Among these there were but a thousand regular infantry, with about twelve pieces of artillery, four regiments of Cossacs of the Don, and three hundred Cossacs of Uralisk, who alone remained faithful to him, out of a large body of them, which had been, in the beginning, attached to his cause.

At Tarizyn, the general met Colonel Michelson, who had very lately gained fresh and very considerable advantages, in an engagement with Pugatschew; in which the regular infantry, who had never been sincere in the cause of that insurgent, and the greatest part of the peasants had surrendered: so that his force consisted then only of the Cossacs of Uralisk, with some bands of peasants; with which he took refuge in the extensive heaths of that country.

Thither Suworow was resolved to follow him, nor to quit the pursuit till he had se-

cured him. As Colonel Michelson had, in the last engagement, taken a great number of horses, they served to mount three hundred infantry; with which, two squadrons of regular troops, two hundred Cossacs, and two field-pieces, Suworow passed the Wolga at Jarizyn, and ascended the river to the large village of Michelowka, which is situated over against the town of Denitrowka. As the inhabitants of this village had swerved from their fidelity, the general seized fifty pair of bullocks, on a pretence that he wanted them for the transport of his baggage; but his real object was to provide for his subsistence during his march through a long tract of heathy unproductive country, where it would not be possible to procure sufficient provisions to maintain his detachment for five days.

On the following day, they began their march through these immense deserts, where there were neither habitations, nor roads,
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nor any trace of civilized life. In the day, they were obliged to direct their course by the sun, and at night the stars were their guides. Besides, the heat reflected by the sands was insufferably oppressive, nor could they find a tree or thicket to afford them its hospitable shade: they were therefore obliged to pursue their journey during the night. To their other inconveniences, they were compelled to lessen the allowance of provisions, as they did not know how long it might be before they should receive a fresh supply.

They directed their course to the little river Gerflau, on whose banks a few trees are scattered, and from thence to the five lakes of Saitfch. There the general fell in with Major Count Mellin, with a few hundred men, and Colonel Illoweiski, with a regiment of Cossacs, and Martimianow, a chief of the Cossacs of Uralik; who had not taken part with the insurgents, with a hundred of
his

his people. The troops had left Jarizyn before Suworow's arrival at that place. On their route through the desert, they had met several bands of peasants, attached to the party of Pugatschew; and, having convinced them of their error, had sent them back to their country without effusion of blood.

They arrived at the confluence of two rivers, Ufa, which flow into a large lake. This spot, which is in the midst of the heaths of Uralsk, was covered with wood, and thither, according to the report of some peasants who had quitted him, Pugatschew was endeavouring to retire. The Russian troops amounted to about a thousand men, well provided with field-pieces; while Pugatschew's force was now reduced to three hundred. The general accordingly distributed his people into various parties, in order to seek him out, and to cut him off from all possibility of escape. They were already upon his track, in the thickest part of the wood,

wood, when the hermits, many of whom are scattered about this country, and support themselves by fishing, gave information that Pugatschew had arrived there that morning, and that some of his own people had bound him hand and foot, and taken him to Ural'sk.

Pugatschew had flattered himself, that he should have been able to persuade such of the Cossacs as appeared to be attached to his cause, to accompany him to the lake of Aral, beyond the Caspian sea, and unite themselves to the Karakalpaks, a wandering horde of Kirgis-Kay; but when they heard of the troops that were in pursuit of him, they were alarmed at the danger that threatened themselves, and took the resolution to deliver him up at Ural'sk.

General Suworow now ordered all the parties to be called in, and set off for Ural'sk. During the night they lost their way, and
fell

fell in with the Kirkis, a nation known for their invincible courage; many bands of which were scattered about those deserts. They are strangers to fear, and though they were far inferior in numbers to the Russians, they did not hesitate to attack them. Twenty of these people were slain; at the same time, many of the Russians were wounded with their arrows, and the Count Mari-mouitsch, aid-de-camp, and a few others lost their lives.

The general hastened onwards, accompanied by such as had activity sufficient to keep pace with him; and, in a few days, they arrived at Ural'sk. Colonel Simonow, who was the commandant of the town, had already taken Pugatschew into his custody, and now delivered him up to Suworow.

This insurgent had, at one time, collected such a force, and was followed with such

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enthusiasm,

enthusiasm; that, if his understanding had been equal to his courage, and his moderation had kept pace with his power, he might certainly have possessed himself of Moscow, and made the Imperial Catherine tremble on her throne. Many stories are related of him which we are not required to repeat. We shall only add, that he was a Cossack, and born in a village on the river Don; and, as it is related, having in his early youth assisted a young woman in conducting her horses to drink in the river, she accompanied her acknowledgments with a declaration, that he would one day be emperor. This prophetic compliment is said to have worked up his enthusiastic mind, and, by inflaming his ambition, to have produced the extraordinary circumstances of his life.

General Suworow, having got possession of Pugatschew, he accompanied in person the troops that escorted him, on his removal
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from Ural'sk. During a certain part of the way, he was enclosed in a large cage, placed on a carriage; but was afterwards removed to a waggon, along with his son; a boy of twelve years of age, who inherited, and at that early period, displayed, the turbulent qualities of his father. At length they arrived at Sinsbirs'k, a town on the Wolga, when Suworow delivered up his prisoner to Count Panin, who ordered him to be conveyed to Moscow; where he suffered the punishment due to his crimes.

During the absence of Count Panin at Moscow, the general remained at Sinsbirs'k, and took the command of the army. It amounted to eighty thousand men, who were in winter quarters, in different cantons upon the Wolga; in the province of Orenbourg, and in the governments of Casna and Penza.

In the spring of the year 1775, the general joined his corps on the frontiers. He afterwards went by way of Samara to Orenbourg, where General Monfurow commanded, and of which General Reinsdorf was governor, with whom he had a particular conference. As he was on his return by Ufa, he received the very unexpected information, that a successor of the rebel Pugatschew, named Same-triow, had appeared on the borders of the Caspian sea. This man had frequently pilaged the Turks, and once seized several trading vessels, with some pieces of artillery. He made incursions by sea and by land, and had approached to Astracan, on the side of the lake Aral.

Measures were accordingly taken to put a stop to his career; and the general dispatched two battalions, with some artillery, and dragoons, down the Wolga for that purpose. At the same time, he communi-
cated

cated the necessary intelligence to the governor of Astracan.

Semetriow had been a private foot soldier, was afterwards advanced, and had deserted. He possessed both talents and courage, but the means of employing them to any great extent had not been afforded him. He had never collected more than three hundred followers, and when they found that he was in danger of being seized by the troops that pursued him, they abandoned him to his fate.

The peace was celebrated during the summer of this year, at Moscow; and Lieutenant-General Suworow received, on that occasion, a sword, enriched with diamonds. During the following winter, he went to Moscow, and arrived there at the time when the empress was preparing to leave it. He

was now advanced to the command of the Petersburg division, but he remained some time at Moscow, for the superintendence of his private affairs.

CHAP.

C H A P. V.

SUWOROW'S OPERATIONS IN CUBA. A NEW
KHAN ESTABLISHED THERE.

IN November, 1776, Suworow received a commission for the Crimea, where Lieutenant-General Prince Proforowski then was. He arrived there in December, took the command of a corps, which was stationed in winter quarters, in the environs of Pererkop.

The empress had fixed on Schaim Ghiray, as Khan of the Crimea, in the place of Devlet Ghiray. The former was then in the wilds of Cuban, among the Tartars of Nogay. In February, 1777, he came from Tammann, by the strait of Caffa, towards Jenicole,

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in

in the Crimea. Suworow received him under the walls of Perecop. In March, he advanced against the troops of Deulet Ghiray, and without striking a blow, intirely dispersed them, by his rapid marches in the neighbourhood of Karasbafar and Achmetschet, where he posted himself with his corps. Deulet Ghiray fled across the Black Sea to Constantinople, and Schaim Ghiray was proclaimed Khan.

In the course of the summer, Suworow was again attacked with a fever, and removed to a distance from the Crimea, on account of the climate: he went to Pultava, and fell dangerously ill of an inflammatory fever, from which he did not recover till the end of the autumn.

In December, he took the command of the corps of Cuban, where he arrived by Rostow, Azof, and Juy. This corps consisted of five regiments of infantry, with their field-pieces, and

and twelve pieces of heavy artillery, ten squadrons of dragoons, twenty squadrons of hussars, and five regiments of Cossacs. They were distributed partly under an old fort, called Koppyl, partly in an entrenchment, near Tarmar on the Black Sea, and the rest in the wilds of Tamann, as far as Azof, in intrenchments and redoubts of communication; in each of which a company was posted, with two pieces of cannon, to defend themselves against the banditti of Circassia.

These nations, who inhabit the left bank of the Cuban, and are generally known under the name of Circassians, are divided into various tribes. They are called great and little Abascians, Circassians, (whose country is celebrated for the beauty of the women,) Schaptschiks, Attukays, Temirgois, Cassaiens, and Barays. The little Abascians are altogether pagans, and the rest, though Mahometans by profession, retain many pagan ceremonies, in some degree, blended with those of Christianity.

Behind

Behind the Attukays are the Tartar Naurufis, among whom are many poor sultans of the race of Gerigis, and a greater number of that of Chaban-Sultan. They are descended from a shepherd and a sultana who was poisoned, but nevertheless have not lost their title. All these tribes live in perfect anarchy.

Their wants, however, unite them in bands of from ten to one hundred, and sometimes five hundred men. They are strong and courageous, and are provided with fire-arms, sabres, and bows and arrows. They often come and pillage even the habitations of the Cossacs of the Don; and, when a few of their number are killed, return home, keeping always on the defensive. They are good marksmen, and so swift, that it is very difficult to take any of them. Their chief object in their incursions is to make prisoners, whom they sell for slaves to the Turks, or employ them in agriculture. Batyr Ghiray, elder brother of the reigning khan, had above

one hundred of these slaves, whom he maintained with great care, in a village beyond the Cuban.

They infested the public roads, and sometimes even surprized the soldiers. Parties, indeed, had been sent out to make reprisals on the left bank of the Cuban, but it was difficult to distinguish the innocent from the guilty. Hence Suworow thought it expedient to cover all the right bank of that river with works. From its mouth to the lines of Caucasus, which had before been fortified, were small fortresses at intervals of ten miles, with intermediate forts of lesser dimensions. These works were merely repaired, and this undertaking Suworow and Lieutenant-Colonel Fock completed, without any engineer whatever. They each employed fifteen hundred men, and, as the whole winter passed without snow or cold weather in Cuban, the work was finished in six weeks. They were indeed frequently interrupted by sudden

sudden attacks of the Circassians, though often with insignificant forces; but on some occasions the enemy fell on them in numbers, and as many as fifty men remained upon the field. When the works were completed, the incursions of the Turks became more rare, though they still continued to molest them, and the Cossacs suffered the least in these attacks.

In May, 1778, Prince Prozorowski left the Crimea for Petersburg, and Suworow took the command of the corps in that peninsula, and of the troops distributed over the country, as far as the Dniپر; forming together a body of sixty thousand men, under the command of Field-Marshal Romanzow. At that time, Lieutenant-General Tekelli commanded in the Ukraine, and Lieutenant-General Rhechefski in Poland.

The Porte viewing the elevation of Schaim Ghiray, by no means, with an indifferent eye,
made

made preparations for war, and sent considerable numbers of troops into Moldavia, who were assembled near Schotin. They also ordered out a fleet of one hundred and sixty sail, fifteen of which were of the line, under the orders of the celebrated Hassan, Captain-Pacha, and of Alibey of Natolia. Suworow now fortified several peninsulas of the Crimea, and even caused intrenchments to be made in the mountains.

Although the principal troubles in the Crimea were appeased, the Turks still had eight or ten small ships before Achtiar, now called Sebastopolis. They had arrived there during the winter, with the design to excite an insurrection among the Tartars. To get rid of them at once, Suworow went on horse-back to reconnoitre along the shore, in the neighbourhood of Backtschifarey, accompanied by the Khan. Having observed the most essential points, he extended his troops during the night along the two sides of the basin, and
fortified

fortified the mouth of the port. Day put a stop to their labours, which were resumed in the following night. The pretext for these operations was, that the Turks, having disembarked to bring their cattle on shore, had killed a Cossack, who approached them; and that a packet had been detained at Constantinople. The Turks perceiving there was a design to blockade them, quitted the port during the night, and went out to sea. These transactions took place in July.

The grand fleet of the Turks, which was still at sea, sent two deputies ashore, who, immediately on landing, made a formal protest, in the name of their commander, against the entrance of the Russians into the Crimea, and more especially against the presence of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea; and expressed themselves with great severity, calling the Russian fleet corsairs, as that sea belonged exclusively to the Grand Seignior.

Suworow

Suworow received these deputies with the greatest politeness, and at their departure delivered, to them and to the Khan, an answer in writing, of which the substance was, that the Tartar government had demanded of the empress, the aid of Russian troops, and that consequently that government had no occasion for the assistance of the Turks; that the Russian fleet cruised in those seas for their safety, and that as to the name of corsair, used by the Turkish admiral, he was responsible for that insult to his master, the Grand Seignior, who was the friend of Russia.

During their stay on shore, the deputies perceived, with much surprise and uneasiness, the fortifications erected in various places; and, shortly after their departure, in August, the whole of the Turkish fleet appeared off the coast of the Crimea. It extended from Kertschi to Kaslow, and the little Russian fleet remained in the neighbourhood of Jenikala. The Turkish fleet were in want of
fresh

fresh water, and were desirous of procuring some on shore; but were prevented by Russian picquets, who were posted at every point, and ready to fire upon them. This refusal was given under a pretence, that the dryness of the season occasioned a want of water among the inhabitants; so that the admiral was not allowed to procure fresh water for himself. Suworow had given strict orders on this subject, because he thought it might, perhaps, be an artifice of the Turks to send men on shore.

A fortnight after, the whole Turkish fleet once more gained the offing, and retired to Constantinople.

Suworow had been ordered by his court to transplant some Greek and Armenian Christians from the Crimea into Russia. Among these were many persons of property, who paid a considerable revenue to the Khan. This delicate commission, therefore, required
considerable

considerable circumspection, and as two ministers of the Khan strongly opposed the measure, Suworow placed a guard before their houses, with cannon, until they should desist. The metropolitan of the Greeks, the chief of the Armenians, and the curate of the Catholics, perfectly coincided in the views of Suworow, and in the space of a month the Christians abandoned their dwellings, and emigrated with their property and cattle to Russia, where they established themselves in the government of Catherinoslow. This colony consisted of about twenty thousand men. Suworow procured for them as many post horses as possible, and other conveniences for travelling, distributing to the poor a ducat each, previous to their departure.

In October, Suworow placed his troops in winter quarters, and having confided the command of the corps of Cuban, to Major-General Kayser, remained himself at Koslow.

In the course of the summer, the Attukays attacked them with a few hundred men, with an intention of surprizing and carrying off the horses of a squadron of hussars, which were at pasture. The captain of the squadron opposed them with his men on foot, who defended themselves with their carbines: but the Attukays used their rifle-barrelled guns so skilfully, that the whole squadron were cut to pieces. The infantry, who were intrenched, took no part in this affair, because their commanders were at variance;—the usual fate of small detachments, when employed without sufficient precautions. In other respects every thing succeeded perfectly well in that quarter, and the Circassians were repulsed with loss in almost every engagement. Colonels Hamborn and Stoeritsch attacked the great Abascians, and the territory of the Attukays, with success. Although both sides sustained some loss, that of the enemy was much the greatest, and the

Russians

Russians succeeded in their object of making their frontiers respected.

In the spring of 1779, Suworow took the field with a large body of troops, and established himself near Karasubasar, where he made them perform several manœuvres. Towards the month of June, the Porte acknowledged Schaim Gheray as Khan of the Tartars of the Crimea, by a treaty concluded between the Russians and the Turks. This was what Russia demanded. The Grand Seignior, as Calif, sent Khan a sabre and a caftan, which the latter accepted; but, contrary to custom, would not permit the deputies to put them on him, but ordered both the weapon and the dress to be placed in his cabinet.

At the end of June, the Russian troops marched from the Crimea and Cuban on their return to Russia. The forts were abandoned, and the troops were reviewed and inspected

in the various camps. Only a few thousand men were left in the environs of Kinburn and Jenikala, and the Aulic Counsellor Constantinow remained with the Khan, under the title of *Chargé d'Affaires*.

At Pultava, Suworow received the command of the troops of Little Russia, where the empress, as a testimony of her approbation, gave him a snuff-box, with her portrait set in diamonds.—Here he did not continue long, as he received orders, at the beginning of the winter, to return to Petersburg.

He was received there with the greatest attention, and the court gave him the command of a secret expedition on the Caspian Sea. The empress presented him with the star of the Order of Alexander, embellished with diamonds. It was the same, she had herself worn on a habit of that order.

In

In March, 1780, Suworow went to Astracan, where he made the necessary dispositions, and procured the most exact information respecting Persia ; in which empire, some troubles had arisen, and a bloody war commenced between the Khans, after the death of Nadir Schah. He reconnoitred the Seven Mouths of the Wolga and the neighbouring coasts of the Caspian ; but the expedition did not take place, although the corps and troops were already set down in the war-lists for that service. Suworow remained some months at Astracan, after which he received the command of the division of Casan, in which province he arrived in 1781; and continued there a considerable time.

CHAP. VI,

THE TARTARS TAKE THE OATH OF ALLEGI-
ANCE TO RUSSIA.—EXPEDITION AGAINST
THE NOGAYS BEYOND THE CUBAN.

THE Sultan Mahomet Ghiray, being a sworn enemy to the Khan Schaim Ghiray, although his nearest relation, stirred up the Tartars against the Khan, who was then in his capitol. This revolt broke out in autumn, and the Khan fled, accompanied by his most faithful servants to Kaffa, where he embarked, and arrived by the sea of Azof, at Petrowsk, a Russian fortress, built on the northern coast,

Towards

Towards the end of 1782, Prince Potemkin arrived at Cherson, with a commission from the empress; and, having sent for Suworow, together with the division of Casan, had an interview with the Khan at Petrowsk, and immediately set off for Petersburg.

The Khan returned to Balktschisarey, accompanied by a considerable number of Russian troops, and the troubles were very speedily appeased. The malcontents had proclaimed his elder brother, Batyr Ghiray, khan in his place. The other brother, Arslar Ghiray, who commanded in Cuban, as seraskier of the Tartars of Noga, was at that time with his elder brother in the Crimea; and both they and their suites were carried off by the Russians, who, after keeping them prisoners for some time, embarked them on the Cuban, and restored them their liberty; so that the whole terminated without much effusion of blood. But the rebel chief, Ma-

homet Ghiray, being arrested, was stoned, by order of the Khan, and several other Tartars, who had persisted in their rebellion, were punished with death.

Suworow now set off for Saint Demetrius, and for Azof, where he again took the command of the Cuban, at the beginning of the winter. The corps consisted of twelve battalions, with their artillery and heavy field-pieces, twenty squadrons of dragoons, six regiments of Cossacs, and the remainder of the militia of the Don, under their commander, Ilowieski,

At the end of May, Prince Potemkin again went to Cherson, sent for Suworow, deliberated with him, and returned to Saint Demetrius.

Six corps were now set on foot, besides two in Poland, to keep the Turks in awe. The first of these corps was stationed at
Kotmisch,

Kotmisch, under the command of Prince Repnin; the second, at Humann, under Count Soltikow; the third, as a body of reserve, in Little Russia; the fourth, as a troop of execution, in the government of the Crimea, under Prince Potemkin himself; the fifth, was that of Cuban, under Suworow; and the sixth, in Caucasus, under Paul Potemkin.

The rendezvous of Suworow's troops was under the fortress of Jay, fifteen miles from Azof, in the wilds of Cuban. He hastened the assemblage of his regiments, several of which had considerable marches to perform, some coming from distant quarters near the Don, and others from the lines of Caucasus.

In the course of June, part of the troops having arrived in the neighbourhood of Jay, Suworow sent a proclamation, inviting the

tribes of the Tartar hordes of Nogay to come and see him, treated them as old acquaintance, and gave them a grand gala in the wilds; at which above three thousand Nogay Tartars were present. Their behaviour was friendly, and they returned home the following day.

As the troops arrived, they were sent forward without loss of time, to occupy with redoubts, the lines from Jay, as far as Tammann, where the principal points of Kopyl and Kurkey were. Suworow remained near Jay, with four battalions and their field-pieces, ten squadrons of dragoons, and two regiments of Cossacs.

On the 28th of June, which was the anniversary of the accession of the empress, the Nogay hordes again assembled, with a numerous train of attendants, in consequence of being invited to the feast. They came to the number of five or six thousand, and the whole

whole of the country round Jay was covered with their tents.

Schaim Ghiray, khan of the Nogay Tartars, now abdicated his dignity, at the same time notifying to the Tartars; 1st. That he had come to that resolution of his own accord; 2d. That they were at liberty to choose his successor; 3d. That he was determined to live and die among them. Prince Potemkin immediately published a manifesto from the empress, with a supplement in his own name, ordering all the Tartars to take the oath of fidelity to the empress. These manifestoes were also sent into the Cuban, a little before the 20th of June.

On this occasion, the troops were distributed in proper order, and in several divisions in the environs of Jay; and, when divine service was concluded, the Nogay chiefs assembled, and in the presence of Suworow, publicly swore, on the Koran, fidelity and homage to the empress. They
afterwards

afterwards went to their tribes, and made them take the same oath. The whole of this ceremony was performed with the greatest solemnity, amidst the continual discharge of artillery, and songs of joy. Several of the Tartars received appointments in the Russian service, the oldest being made staff officers, and some others subalterns.

When the whole was concluded, a grand feast was given, in an immense open place, in the wilds. The guests were seated on the ground, in the manner of the Tartars, and distributed in a number of small groups, all placed according to their rank. The dinner consisted, principally, of boiled and roast meat: a hundred oxen, and eight hundred sheep, were killed on the occasion; and, as the laws of the Tartars did not permit them to drink wine, but only Sago brandy, five hundred cimers (thirty-two thousand pints) of that liquor were provided, and the company allowed to drink at
pleasure;

pleasure; besides which, English porter was served to the chiefs, who dined at Suworow's table. This party drank healths in a large cup, which was handed round the table, accompanied by discharges of cannon, and continual cries of joy, and of "Urta and Allah!" The other companies did the same, and mirth and happiness prevailed throughout the scene. Russians and Tartars were mingled together, and, after dinner, races were performed, on all sides, between the Tartars and the Cossacs. Some of the Tartars died, in consequence of drinking to excess; which they consider as an honour in their great feasts. In the evening, a second feast was served, which continued great part of the night.

A similar entertainment was given the following day, the 29th of June, which was that of St. Peter and St. Paul, the grand duke's patron, when a breakfast was given;
after

after which, the Tartars took their leave, embracing the Russians as brethren.

Immediately after the oath had been taken, Suworow sent a courier to Prince Potemkin, with this act of faith and homage of the Tartars. Those of the Crimea soon followed their example.

When the Nogays were returned to Jay, their first step was to administer the same oath to their tribes, in the presence of the Russian staff and other officers.

Soon after, Suworow received a letter, from the empress, to the following effect :

To our Lieutenant-General de Suworow,

“ In the affairs confided to your care, and
 “ particularly in the commission you have
 “ borne, under the direction of our General
 “ Prince

" Prince Potemkin, for the re-union of the
 " various nations of the Russian empire,
 " you have shewn a zeal and activity for
 " our service, which has excited our parti-
 " cular attention and favour. Willing to
 " give you a public testimony of our ap-
 " probation, we hereby grant you the grand
 " cross of the equestrian order of Saint
 " Wolodimir, of the first class, of which
 " we send you the decorations. We com-
 " mand you to receive, and wear, them,
 " according to the statutes. We are, af-
 " fectionately,

" CATHERINE."

Czarcofelo, July, 28, 1783.

As the constancy of the Nogays was
 wholly uncertain, and could not be relied on,
 it was proposed to remove all their tribes,
 by small degrees, to the waste lands of
 Uralsk, and disarm them whenever an op-
 portunity should offer. A very extensive
 cordon was formed from the river of Jay to

the middle of the Don ; and, in the course of July, all the Tartars of Nogay assembled near Jay.

Here it will be proper to speak more at large of this nation, so celebrated in the ancient times ; a nation, with whom, five hundred years ago, Gengis Khan conquered Asia, as far as the confines of China ; and among whom Tamerlane was born. The Nogay Tartars pretend to come from the Usbeks. Tschutschchi, eldest son of Gengis Khan, being, with his brothers, in China, at the siege of a fortress, was reprimanded, by his father, for some faults committed there. Enraged at this, he fled to the Kuptschacs, and, though they already had a khan, took part in the government, in which he shewed great penetration. He afterwards continued as sovereign over this nation, who, at that time, had in their power the greater part of Russia ; their frontiers extending along the Wolga, as far

far as Penza, Arfamas, and the great forest of Muron, where entrenchments are still to be seen. He built a residence for himself, at Sarayscheck, on the river Aktoban, nine miles from the rich and extensive city of Jarizin, for which purpose he sent for architects from Moscow. The ruins of some of the streets, and large squares, where the Russian princes were obliged to pay their tribute, are still in existence. The successors of Tschutschki governed with moderation, and did not interfere in matters of religion; the patriarch retained his authority, and the laws were on the same footing as before. The Russian princes continued to submit to the Kuptschaks till the time of the celebrated Mamay, who was, properly, a grand vizir among the Tartars; and who, having carried his arms into the interior of Russia, within fifteen wersts of Moscow, was completely beaten, and repulsed, by the great Prince Demetrius Donskoy. From that period, intestine division, and epidemic disorders,

successively depopulated their hords; which, originally, consisted of several hundred thousands. At length, the Czar Iwan Walslowitsch, who made himself master of the kingdoms of Kasan and Astracan, repulsed these Tartars in the wilds of Uralisk, behind the Wolga; and, towards the close of the last century, several of them, traversing the wilds of Cuban, fled through the Crimea, to take refuge in Bessarabia, and placed themselves under the protection of the Turks.

Bady Khan, second son of Gengis, was to bring all the rest of Russia intirely under subjection to him. He treated the princes who submitted with great moderation, but was extremely rigorous toward those whose resisted his authority. The celebrated Grand Duke, Alexander Newski de Wolodimir refused to wait on him when he passed, and as he persisted in his refusal three times; he was required to make satisfaction

faction by fire ordeal. This he also refused, and went to the Khan, saying, "I am willing" to acknowledge you as sovereign, but cannot honour your gods, as I only believe "in one." The Khan was so well satisfied with this firm answer, that he left the prince in possession of his estates, and afterwards added to them.

This Khan traversed Poland, and his army advanced as far as the frontiers of Silisia. Wherever these Nomades passed, they left colonies behind them, branches of which are still to be found near Moscow, and in Poland. From them are descended the families of Beliak and Korizki.

The tribes of the Nogay Tartars were distinguished by the following names: the Upper and Lower Gedissans, the Great and Little Tshamburluks, the Gedischkulers to the right and left, the Kuptschaks, and the

Akermans. These last had been much diminished by a violent epidemical disorder, which prevailed among them when they emigrated from Bessarabia to Cuban, in the last war. These nations, who were once so formidable, and who were able to send a hundred thousand cavalry into the field, are now reduced to less than one-third of their ancient population. They have always continued to pursue a pastoral life; living on the produce of their flocks, and eat rice instead of bread; as they began very late to cultivate wheat. Their dress is very simple; and a new sheep's skin serves them for holiday clothes. They have few good fire-arms, and, in general, make great use of bows and arrows: they have also javelins made of a bad kind of wood, which is found in these deserts. They likewise arm themselves with a sabre, and many of them use their knives as poniards. In battle, they also employ large hammers, which they fasten to their hands with

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a thong

a thong of leather. Such was the manner of life of the Nogay Tartars, the descendants of the celebrated Gengis Khan.

Their march towards the Don, and the wilds of Uralsk, was divided into several columns, under an escort of Russian troops. At the end of July, when they were half way to the Don, Schaim Gheray arrived at Tamann, together with his suite, by the strait of Jenikala, where he circulated seditious letters, and secretly stirred up the Nogay hordes. Hence arose a considerable revolt, and the rebels retired to the river Cuban, where they met with resistance from those who remained faithful to Russia; among whom the commander of the Gedissans, and old Mussabeg, chief of the Tschamburluks, deserve to be particularly distinguished. They had many engagements with their countrymen, in which much blood was spilt, and Mussabeg himself was severely wounded in the neck with a sabre,

Suworow was unwilling to use force for the restoration of tranquillity. The Tartars marched against the line of forts; and, to the number of several thousand men, advanced to the camp, without suffering themselves to be broken. On attempting to pass a morass, where an officer was posted with a company of fusileers, and a piece of artillery, by whom they were resisted, they engaged him, and advanced with their chief, who pressed forward with the utmost fury. The little platoon, however, defended themselves long enough to receive the reinforcement of a squadron of dragoons, who were encamped at the distance of a mile. An hour after, Colonel Telegin, who was at a still greater distance, arrived, in the utmost haste, with two battalions, who immediately broke the enemy's ranks, and defeated and dispersed the Tartars. This engagement cost them five hundred men. The post which Colonel Telegin had abandoned, was also a very important pass; the

the Nogays took advantage of the opportunity, and several thousand of them traversed the morafs, and fled into the country of the Temirgois, in the Naurus, behind the river Cuban; but being purfued, they abandoned their immense herds of cattle, and removed to a greater diftance. The booty confifted of about thirty thousand horfes, forty thousand horned cattle, and above two hundred thousand fheep.

Suworow, who was in the middle of the line, made a junction with Lieutenant-Colonel Lefchtewitsch, infpector-general of the Nogays. Here he was informed, that Taw Sultan Murfa had juft been plotting a new confpiracy. This Murfa, governor of the young fultan, who was nephew to Schaim Gheray, was defirous of raifing his pupil to the dignity of Khan, and had already been the frequent infligator of revolts. The confpiracy foon broke out, and *kafanka* was the watchword they adopted. They packed

up their *kibiks* (tents), placed the whole on carriages, together with the least of their children, and drove their cattle before them, having, previous to their departure, massacred the Russians who had been left to watch them, and who were unable to save themselves by flight. The troops of the cordon, who were the nearest, hastened to attack them, but were obliged to retreat from the inferiority of their numbers. Taw Sultan attacked Jay, at the head of a few thousand men, and though repulsed with loss, continued his march towards the river Cuban, and collected the rest of the Nogays, as also some of the chiefs of those who had continued faithful; and, among the rest, Halli Effendi, with his wife, whom he carried away. Most of the faithful Tartars encamped in the environs of Jay.

In August, Suworow assembled his troops in one body, near Kopyl, and caused barracks to be prepared for the approaching winter

winter quarters. At the end of the month, the Tartars made an attack beyond the Cuban with ten thousand men, and traversed the wilds to fall upon Jay, where a sufficient garrison had been left. They attacked the intrenchments, during three following days, with so much impetuosity, that they lost four hundred men, and had two hundred taken prisoners in a fally. They then took to flight, but were able to carry off several of their men who had remained behind.

In the course of September, Prince Potemkin, generalissimo of all the forces, ordered Suworow to arrest Schain Gheray, at Tamann, to put his corps into winter-quarters on the Don, and to put an end to the operation he intended to undertake against the Nogays.

The first of these measures did not take place. Suworow had already left Kopyl when the orders arrived, and was under cover in a wood

wood two miles from that place. Major-General Jelagin was then at Teman with Colonel Holle. To him Suworow immediately dispatched a courier, who, passing the night at Kopyl, where he was to be joined by the necessary escort, was obliged to wait till the next day, because General Philippow was in bed, and had given orders that he should not be disturbed. This general gave the courier an escort of about thirty Cossacs, who were cut to pieces on the road, by above a hundred Abascians, and the courier was obliged to return. Isaiow, colonel of a regiment of Cossacs, was ordered, with the utmost haste, to join Jelagin, near Teman, and he accordingly set forward on the march.

In the night, previous to his arrival, Schaim Gheray was informed of the fate which threatened him, and, having with him a numerous body of men, speedily mounted his horse, and, together with his people, hastened

hastened to the banks of the Cuban, which is but two miles from thence, where he found some boats, which Jelagin had not removed; he knowing nothing of the project, and having always been treated with politeness by Shaïm Gheray. Jelagin and Isaiow pursued him; but he had already passed the river. In vain they called after him, but he answered their solicitations with excuses, and retired into Circassia.

The detachment, appointed for the expedition on the left bank of the Cuban, consisted of sixteen companies of infantry, in four platoons, each of which had two light field-pieces, sixteen squadron of dragoons, with the same number of pieces of artillery, and four regiments of Cossacs. The Commanding Officer Iloweiski was ordered to march directly towards the Cuban, with twelve regiments of Cossacs, each five hundred men strong, and to make a junction with Suworow at an appointed time and place.

This

This corps had performed a march of thirty miles. They ascended the right bank of the Cuban, always advancing by night, and in the day time halting in the woods. They proceeded in the greatest silence, and without signals, because the Circassians had strong piquets on the left banks, and they were anxious to avoid discovery. For the same reason, Suworow having before met a Turkish messenger from Sutschuk, replied to his enquiries: "It is a small detachment, which remained behind, and which I am conducting to the corps of Caucasus."

The Grand Quarter-Master Foedorow was on horseback in the van, and as there was no road along the bank, he posted two Cossacs at every quarter of a league as guides. When they arrived opposite to the country occupied by the Attukays, on the left bank, they found so little wood, that they could not conceal their march. The river, too, was very narrow in that part, and the Attukays
fired

fired across it, both with muskets and bows and arrows. They did not, however, much annoy the Russians, who were careful not to answer their fire. Towards noon, Suworow sent for the Bey¹ who commanded there, and severely reprimanded him for this conduct; and the Bey dispersed the offenders by driving them away with whips. As to the destination of the troops, the same explanation was given to the Bey as to the Turkish messenger from Sutschuk.

At length, the corps approached the river Laba, which arises in Mount Caucasus, in the province of Cuban. Here they met with no more wood, and the troops concealed themselves, by encamping in hollows; but were not molested by any enemy whatever.

Not far from the bank were some hills of considerable height. Suworow ascended them, and perceived some Nogays making hay; and
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when he saw the distant smoke of their fires, he was fully confirmed in the information he had received, that this was the place where the Nogay Tartars were encamped. The Russians halted during the day. In the afternoon, Iloweisk, the commanding officer on the Don, joined them, according to appointment, with his twelve regiments of Cossacs, and at dusk they marched towards the right bank of the Cuban, which in that part is flat, and covered with fine forests. On their arrival the moon shone very bright.

In this place the Cuban is a full quarter of a mile broad, and as they had no pontoons, they prepared to ford, or swim across it, and sent forward some Cossacs to find out the fordable parts. The infantry stripped themselves, and forded the river naked, carrying their arms and cartouch boxes on their heads, being frequently up to their shoulders in water. The cavalry took the clothes of the infantry on the cruppers of the horses,

horses, and carried the ammunition two by two, that the powder might not be wetted. Thus they passed the river in companies and in squadrons; the horse crossing somewhat higher, to break the force of the current. In the middle of the stream was a spacious island, where they halted for a short time, when, in the same order, they gained the left bank, which they found very steep, and covered with rocks. Even the Cossacs had great difficulty to get on shore on horseback, and above all the dragoons, who carried the ammunition; and it required great labour to hoist up the artillery, and the rest of the baggage, with ropes. The infantry climbed up, and dressed themselves, but the banks were so full of rocks, that they could scarcely make use of the intrenching tools which they had brought with them.

All being now in order, they began to march. Having proceeded nearly a mile, they came to a morass, which it was necessary
far

fary to pass. They ascended the right bank of the Laba, and having proceeded another mile, the van guard met a patrol, whom they made prisoners, and who served them as guides.

The next morning they surprized the Nogays. The Cossacs, whose country on the Don that nation had formerly ravaged, now took the most dreadful revenge. The massacre continued till noon. This event took place near an old ruined castle, in the neighbourhood of Kermentschuk.

After halting an hour, they advanced two miles farther. When they arrived at the forest of Farisch, which extends as far as Mount Caucasus, the Russians attacked the rest of the Nogay Tartars. The engagement was as vigorous as that of the morning, though many Tartars took to flight as soon as they were informed of this sudden attack. But the Termigois and the Nawrus, in whose
country

country this action happened, and who defended the Nogays, suffered a considerable loss. The prince of the Nawrus was killed, and his daughter led away captive.

The light troops fought on both banks of the Laba. The engagement continued until the evening, when the victorious army reposed in the field of battle, which was in a plain; and the next day pursued the enemy to a distance of some miles, though without being able to overtake them. The conquerors returned on the following day, and repassed the Cuban.

From the time of Mamay, of whom we have spoken above, and who was defeated by Demerius Donskoy, the Nogays had never been so severely handled as on this occasion, which happened on the 1st of October. In the two battles, about four thousand persons, men and women, remained upon the field of battle, which extended a mile and a half along their tents. The Cossacs, according to

the custom of those nations, carried with them a great number of young children.

When the Russians returned to the right bank of the Cuban, the commanding officer Iloweiski returned with his troops towards the Don. At that time, the troops had already set off for Kopyll to go into winter quarters in the same canton, agreeably to their orders. The corps detached from Suworow did the same, and that general retained only a few companies of the infantry, two pieces of cannon, a squadron of dragoons, and a regiment of Cossacs, with which he marched across the wilds to the fortress of Jay. He had above forty German miles to go, and more than ten rivers to cross. In fording these, his troops were frequently up to their middle in water, and were obliged to throw bridges over the deeper channels. The want of wood obliged them make these bridges of reeds and turf, which lasted at the utmost but four-and-twenty hours;

hours ; as the current destroyed them ; and when the troops did not make haste to pass, it became necessary to make others. Some Tartars, who acted as guides across the wilds, directed their march too much to the northward, which caused them to make a false march of ten miles. At length their provisions began to fail them ; and, on the last day, were entirely consumed.

At the end of October, they arrived at fort Jay, where Suworow made the necessary dispositions. There had always been a sufficient number of men in the castle and fort of Jay, because the chiefs of the Nogay hordes were there under the inspection of Lieutenant-Colonel Leschkewitsh ; and after the separation of the Seraskier, Arstan Gheray, his successor, Hallil Effendi, governor-general of the Tartar tribes which had remained behind, encamped in the neighbourhood.

When Suworow arrived, he paid some visits, and particularly to his friend Murfa Bey, prince of the Tschamberluks, who was a venerable old man. He had not yet recovered the wound in his neck; but was highly gratified to see Suworow in good health. He embraced him with tears in his eyes, and called him his son.

Suworow did not stay many days. In the beginning of November, he went by Azof to St. Demetrius, leaving, as a garrison in the castle, a company of grenadiers, one of fusiliers, and a regiment of Cossacs. There were twelve pieces of cannon in the fort.

Except Taw Sultan and a few others, almost all those who had fled towards the left bank of the Cuban, wrote to Suworow with white flags, confessing their error, and promising that in the spring they would return to their former positions, which many of them actually did.

The Russians, after their departure from that country, being much dispersed, were attacked throughout the winter by the Circassians, and especially by the pagans of Abascia. Many of the Russians were killed, and others carried off and sold as slaves in Natolia. At length, however, they assembled in greater numbers, and put themselves in a state of defence.

Among the Tartars who returned, was the ci-devant Hallil Effendi, who had presented himself with some of his followers before the end of the autumn.

There are at present on the north coast of the sea of Azof, about three thousand kibiks, or families of these Tartars, each family, or kibik, consisting of four or five persons. After their emigration from Bessarabia into the wilds of Cuban, there remained about one thousand families under the protection of the Turks, and on the left bank of the

Cuban, in the wilds of Attukay, nearly one thousand more; whom Bajazel Murfa promised to remove to join the rest. Several of their families became poor in consequence of changing their residence, the length of their journey having obliged them to abandon their cattle, in which the whole wealth of these wandering nations consists, or to part with them for very inconsiderable prices.

In the course of the autumn, the plague made some ravages at Cherson, and spread as far as the Don. It continued till Christmas, but such precautions were taken, than not more than a hundred persons fell victims to it on the banks of the Don, of whom not one-third were soldiers.

Suworow passed the winter at St. Demetrius, where the chiefs of the Tartars who remained behind, and with whom he was on friendly terms, frequently visited him. Muffa Bey had now recovered from his
 10 wound.

wound. Mechmed Bey, the chief of the Godissans, often joked with him at table, on his being still inclined to marry; and Suworow one day asking him whether he was serious, Murfa Bey replied with much simplicity, "Mechmed Bey is right;" and immediately request the general to make him a present of a beautiful Tartar girl of sixteen years of age, whom he wished to marry. Suworow bought a young Tartar slave of a Cossack for one hundred rubles, and sent her to Mussa Bey, who accordingly married her. He lived some years after this transaction, and died at the age of a hundred and eight years; having almost reached the age of Attila, king of the Huns. He retained the uses of his faculties till the last, except that his eyes could scarcely bear the light. He was a man of a strong complexion, almost constantly on horseback; and, notwithstanding his great age, an excellent companion. He was very much attached to cleanliness, but despised all luxury. He was faithful in his friendships, and the friend of
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the poor, and his greatest pleasure was to be their benefactor. He was a great eater, and at meals drank pure sago brandy. His servants took him from table, and carried him to bed like a prince. Suworow regarded him with great esteem and attachment.

The ci-divant Khan Schaim Gheray, who had fled towards the left bank of the Cuban, returned in the spring of 1784, into the Crima, by Taman and Jenikala, and set off for Woronitsch, which was the place of his destination. He passed some years in Russia, and afterwards returned. The Turks received him at Chotzim in a manner suited to the dignity of a Khan. He then went to Constantinople, but was not permitted to enter that city, and was sent into banishment at Rhodes, where he was put to death in the most perfidious manner. According to the laws of Turkey, he could not be condemned
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to death ; the Khans, and all the descendants of Gengis, being expressly excepted from all capital punishments ; but it was alleged, as a pretext, that he was no longer Khan, since he had voluntarily abandoned that dignity.

In the summer of the same year, 1784, Suworow left the Nogays, and set off for Moscow. He had gained their friendship, and they had great reliance on his promises. But unfortunately this confidence could not be mutual ; for no dependence can be placed on those nations, who are all equally inconstant with the rest of the Nomades, and know no law but their own will. Their conduct is determined by books of predictions, or dreams ; which, with them, are sufficient motives for violating the most solemn engagements.

Suworow

Suworow went first to the division of Valadimir; and, in 1785, to that of St. Petersburg. On his arrival at the capital, he was received with the greatest distinction, and loaded with favours by the empress.

END OF VOL. I.

PRINTED BY T. BURTON, NO. 31, LITTLE QUEEN-STREET,
LINCOLN'S-INN FIELDS.

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SEP 25 1952



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